FRIDAY
January 24, 2025

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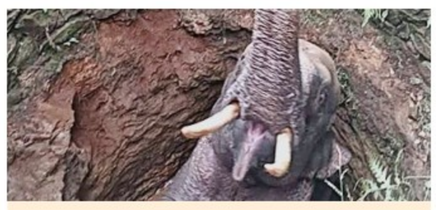

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Tusker rescued after protesters relent

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Keys stuns Swiatek, takes on Sabalenka

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NEARBY

Proposal to acquire palace land dropped

BENGALURU
Over 15 years after notifying the Bangalore Palace Grounds land for widening the traffic-heavy Ballari Road and Jayamahal Road, the Karnataka government has decided to drop the proposal to acquire the palace land.
» PAGE 4

CET: KEA to hold two preparatory examinations

BENGALURU
In a first, the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) will conduct two preparatory examinations for Karnataka Common Entrance Test aspirants to familiarise with the exam pattern. » PAGE 3

METROPLUS » PAGE 9

'Fire rumour' by tea seller triggered Jalgaon tragedy

Collector dismisses reports of spark or smoke on train; Ajit Pawar, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister, says the accident due to 'sheer rumour' about fire by a tea seller on Pushpak Express

Snehal Mutha
MUMBAI

The police and the Railways began a probe into Wednesday's Jalgaon train accident in which 12 persons were killed, even as Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar on Thursday called the accident the result of a "sheer rumour" about fire by a tea seller on Pushpak Express.

Jalgaon Collector Ayush Prasad said the police were investigating the criminal conspiracy angle, while railway officials were probing the technical aspect of the accident, wherein they were checking the speed, brakes, and where the fire came from.

Mr. Prasad dismissed reports of spark or smoke as the fire brigade's foam team was not at all used during the rescue work.

Death trail: The police examine the tracks a day after the train accident in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra on Thursday. PTI

The railway investigation team includes the Principal Chief Safety Officer, the Principal Chief Security Commissioner, the Principal Chief Electrical Engineer, the Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer and the Principal Chief Commercial Manager from the Central Railway Zone.

Chief Public Relations Officer, Swapnil Dhanraj Nila, said the Railway Protection Force and the Government Railway Police initiated an inquiry. In the preliminary inquiry, it was found that after the Pushpak Express stopped, the driver activated the flasher light and applied the brakes as per rules. The curvature of the train was nearly two degrees, which obstructed visibility and reduced the distance for applying the brakes. Even people could not see the train coming. Pilots tried their best to avoid the incident, the CPRO said.

On Wednesday, passengers on Pushpak Express, travelling from Lucknow to Mumbai, jumped off the train after an emergency chain-pulling incident owing to rumour of fire.

The death toll remains at 12. Earlier on Wednesday, the administration gave the official figure as 13 but it was lowered on Thursday as the police found decapitated bodies and misnumbered them.

CONTINUED ON
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RUMOUR HAS IT
» PAGE 14

First case of monkeypox in State reported in Mangaluru

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

A 40-year-old resident of Karkala taluk in Udupi district has been admitted to a hospital in Mangaluru with monkeypox.

The patient, a resident of Dubai for 19 years, exhibited symptoms after his arrival at Manglauru International Airport on January 17.

The patient was isolated at a private hospital, and his samples were referred to the Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute and subsequently to the National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune.

The NIV confirmed monkeypox on January 22. The patient's 36-year-old wife, who received him at the airport has been identified as a primary contact. She has been advised isolation for a few days.

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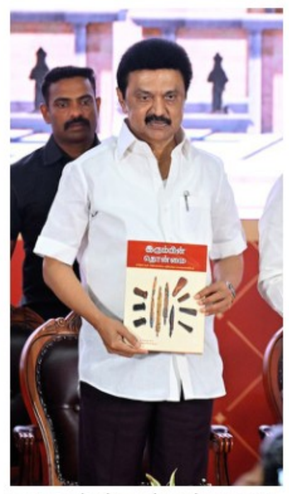
Iron Age kicked off in 4th millennium BCE in T.N.: Stalin

N. Sai Charan
Dennis S. Jesudasan
CHENNAI

In a finding that may alter the understanding of the antiquity of iron in the Indian subcontinent, a report released by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Thursday said introduction of iron in modern-day Tamil Nadu went back to the first quarter of the 4th millennium BCE. Samples were lifted from the Sivagalai site in Thoothukudi district.

Releasing the report, "Antiquity of iron: recent radiometric dates from Tamil Nadu", authored by K. Rajan and R. Sivanantham, Mr. Stalin said: "The Iron Age began on Tamil soil." He went on to cite carbon dating results from renowned institutions. The finding meant that iron usage was prominent in South India over 5,300 years ago, he said. Iron was used on Tamil land in 3345 BCE, he said.



M.K. Stalin launches the report in Chennai. SRINATH M.

Experts suggested that the discovery proved that usage of smelted iron could go back to the middle of the third millennium BCE.

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» PAGE 16

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Arshdeep — the resilient left-armer's journey from zero to hero

The pacer from Guna in Madhya Pradesh is the classic example of refusing to rest on his laurels, of the willingness to get out of his comfort zone, of not believing in the theory of not fixing something that ain't broke

GETTY IMAGES

R. Kaushik

Arshdeep Singh is unlikely to forget September 4, 2022, in a hurry. He might want to, and yet he might not want to. It was an evening when he was labelled national villain No. 1. It was also the evening he used as a springboard to greater things.

Only 23 at the time, the left-arm pacer was playing his ninth Twenty20 International, a high-pressure outing against Pakistan in Dubai in the Asia Cup. It was the precursor to the T20 World Cup, due to start in Australia the following month.

The young man had made a decent enough start to his career, 12 wickets in eight games in England, the West Indies, the United States and the Emirates, but he was singularly unprepared for the backlash a dropped catch would attract.

Pakistan needed 32 to win off 20 deliveries, six wickets in hand, when Asif Ali tried to slog-sweep leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi. All he managed was a top-edge that lobbed - there is no other word, really - to short third-man. Arshdeep had it well under control, perhaps too well at that. Somehow, he contrived to shell the dolly, throwing the hard-hitting right-hander, then on zero, a generous lifeline.

Asif smacked 16 off eight balls, two fours and a six, before Arshdeep trapped him leg before in the final over of Pakistan's chase. It was too little, way too late. Especially with an extra fielder inside the ring because of a tardy over-rate, there was no way Arshdeep could defend seven runs. Pakistan won with a ball to spare, and the trolls got cracking.

The cowards, sitting anonymously in front of clacking keyboards, unleashed a stream of abuse and vitriol, questioning his patriotism, among other things. The attacks were vile, stupid, unacceptable.

It could have broken anyone, let alone a young lad in the early stages of his international career. Rohit Sharma and the rest of the outfit rallied around him, Arshdeep received support and succour and comfort and backing from several quarters. Even so, it couldn't have been easy to be at the receiving end of a collective lashing for a mistake on the field, however silly and expensive it might have been,

To his credit, Arshdeep stayed strong. He is a character, this lad born in Guna, Madhya Pradesh. He finds humour in the most unexpected places and he himself is a terrific wit, dead-panned and poker-faced as he delivers one-liners with stunning regularity.

Blessed with a positive, sunny outlook, Arshdeep dug deep within himself and fed off the empathy of his colleagues to come out of his 'darkest hour' with his head held high, his confidence shaken but not stirred, his belief intact, his faith in his abilities immense. A little over two and a quarter years later, Arshdeep has stormed to the top of the list of wicket-takers for India in T20 cricket.

On Wednesday against England at Eden Gardens in Kolkata, he finished with two for 17 from his four overs, dismissing Phil Salt in the first over of the contest to draw abreast of Yuzvendra Chahal on 96 wickets, then having Ben Duckett caught by a back-pedalling Rinku Singh to take sole possession of the lead with 97 sticks.

It had taken Arshdeep only 61 innings to get there; Chahal had wheeled away for 80 matches and 79 innings to reach 96. Of the 10 Indians to boast 50 or more T20I scalps, only left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav (12.46) has a better strike-rate than Arshdeep's 13.03 balls per wicket. This lad, he sure can bowl.

Hitherto considered pretty much a T20 specialist at the international level, Arshdeep's wings are spreading as wide as his hands do when he picks up a wicket. Last week, he retained his place in the side for the 50-over Champions Trophy next month, edging out senior pacer Mohammed Siraj to the third specialist pacers' slot in the 15-strong party. Since his ODI debut in November 2022, Arshdeep has played only eight ODIs but already has one five-wicket haul and another four-for. His versatility and adaptability won him the nod ahead of Siraj, whose diminishing effectiveness with an ageing ball was cited as the primary reason for him missing out.

Vote of confidence

Arshdeep must realise that being selected for the Champions Trophy is a huge vote of confidence, the clearest sign that the men entrusted with making the important decisions in Indian cricket envision a greater role for him going forward. He is a rarity in Indian cricket, a left-arm quick with the skills, the nous and the belief to hold his own at various stages of a limited-overs innings, a novelty for a primarily right-heavy fast-bowling unit since the retirement in early 2014 after a glorious run of Zaheer Khan, the maestro.

In the decade and more since Zaheer hung up his boots, India have struggled to find a left-arm quick for reasons beyond the fact that one is a left-arm quick. For very brief whiles, Jaydev Unadkat (who made a comeback after debuting in Tests in late 2010 in Centurion), Khaleel Ahmed, T. Natarajan and Chetan Sakariya, among others, were tried out with limited to middling success. The hunt for a reliable left-arm quick who would last the distance seemed headed nowhere until India unearthed a gem in the shape of Arshdeep.

On the face of it, there is nothing menacing about this wispy young man who might not attract a second glance if one passes by him on the streets. He isn't all rippling muscles, he isn't towering and massively built. But give him the cricket ball, mainly but exclusively white, and he grows several feet in stature, offering an angle different from the likes of Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Shami, and Siraj and Hardik Pandya.

Age-old nemesis

There is no overstating the value of possessing a left-arm pacer who can bring the ball into the right-hander from over the stumps. It's a delivery that has accounted for even the most accomplished batters. For a long time, India have had problems with bowlers who can do that, be it Shaheen Shah Afridi or Trent Boult or Mitchell Starc, even Sam Curran and the likes of Reece Topley and Obed McCoy, the West Indian left-armer who wrecked them with six for 17 in Basseterre in August 2022.

It's an angle that creates tremendous problems. Just the knowledge that the bowler has the ability to swing the ball back in can trigger indecision and sow doubts in the minds of the batters, who often end up playing at balls they perhaps don't have to because they aren't sure which one is going on with the angle and which one against it.

Arshdeep is a master at bending the ball back into the right-hander. Like he did to Babar Azam, the Pakistan captain, at the T20 World Cup game in Melbourne, just seven weeks after the Asif Ali misadventure in the desert.

It was his first ball ever in a World Cup, the seventh of the match, the first Babar would face. The field was set for a potential bouncer, with a third-man and a deep backward square in place. Arshdeep steamed in, pretended to drop his right shoulder but produced a beautiful full ball, tailing in late, that worked its way around the bat and thudded into his shin. Dead duck, golden duck. Arshdeep might not have felt so - or maybe he did too — but the ghosts of Dubai had been exorcised. Emphatically.

In his next over, the short ball that the field had promised arrived. Superbly directed, at a good height, excellent line, not inconsiderable pace. Mohammad Rizwan, Babar's opening partner-in-crime and one half of the prolific opening pair that had consigned India to a 10-wicket hammering in the corresponding clash in the 2021 World Cup in Dubai, was sucked into top-edging to fine-leg. In 12 deliveries, Arshdeep had cleaned up India's two chief tormentors, who made only four runs between them. In the space of 50 days, Arshdeep had traversed the spectrum from zero to hero. Oh, the fickleness of the Indian cricket fan.

Arshdeep is the classic example of refusing to rest on his laurels, of the willingness to get out of his comfort zone, of not believing in the theory of not fixing something that ain't broke. He is aware that staying in the same place is not an indication of stagnancy, it's actually a step backwards in a world and a format where predictability comes with the ultimate price. Therefore, he has embarked on a constant and rigorous journey of self-improvement, using himself as his best judge and his worst critic, and using the expertise of the coaches around him to become a better, more feared version of his affable off-field self.

Today, apart from the screaming inswinger and the well disguised bouncer which he uses sparingly but at opportune moments, he has a variety of slower deliveries that make him lethal at the death. It is this skillet that relegated Siraj to the sidelines and earned Arshdeep his Champions Trophy berth. With questions still abounding over Bumrah's availability, the load on Arshdeep's slender yet strong shoulders will be huge, but knowing him, he will view it as a responsibility, not a burden.

Arshdeep is a throwback to the era when Test cricket was considered the foremost, if not the only worthwhile, format. He will seek to continue his red-ball education and keep knocking on the doors of Test selection. Who's to say that he won't break those down, too?

THE GIST

- Arshdeep is unlikely to forget September 4, 2022. It was an evening when he was labelled national villain No. 1. It was also the evening he used as a springboard to greater things
- A little over two and a quarter years later, Arshdeep has stormed to the top of the list of wicket-takers for India in T20 cricket
- With questions still abounding over Bumrah's availability, the load on Arshdeep's slender yet strong shoulders will be huge, but knowing him, he will view it as a responsibility, not a burden

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Bengaluru railway division plans new terminal at Devanahalli

Proposed project, estimated to cost around ₹2,500 crore, will be undertaken under the Viksit Bharat initiative; officials are considering a 200-acre site for the terminal and are currently working on securing the required land

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To address growing passenger traffic and alleviate congestion at key railway stations in the city, the Bengaluru railway division is planning to build a large railway terminal with maintenance facilities at Devanahalli. The proposed project, estimated to cost around ₹2,500 crore, will be undertaken under the Viksit Bharat initiative.

Officials are considering a 200-acre site for the terminal and are currently working on securing the necessary land.

The terminal is envisioned to have at least 10 platforms, significantly easing the strain on existing stations like KSR Bengaluru, Yeshwantpur, and Bengaluru Cantonment, all of which are currently operating at maximum capacity.

"The proposed location for the new terminal will be four to five kilometers away from the existing Devanahalli halt station. It will align with the proposed 287-km circular railway project for the city, but the construction of the terminal will proceed independently. We are planning to connect the terminal through bypass rail routes from other nearby stations," a railway official said

The new terminal is envisioned to have at least 10 platforms, significantly easing the strain on existing stations like KSR Bengaluru (pictured), Yeshwantpur, and Bengaluru Cantonment. FILE PHOTO

To further enhance connectivity and decongest the city, Railways is planning a 280-km circular railway line. This ambitious project will connect Nidvanda, Doddaballapur, Devanahalli, Malur, Heelalige, and Solur, creating a seamless loop.

In addition to the Devanahalli terminal, Minister of State for Railways V. Somanna recently announced plans for the construction of two additional platforms at KSR Bengaluru station at a cost of ₹180 crore. He had also emphasised the development of Bengaluru Cantonment and Yeshwantpur stations into world-class facilities, with a focus on improving passenger convenience.

'Misguided decision'

"The decision to locate the new terminal at Devanahalli is misguided," asserted K.N. Krishna Prasad, a railway activist.

"The existing track is a single line, not a trunk route, and the station was primarily established for the convenience of farmers during the Mysore Maharajas time. This location will not facilitate connections to other major routes and will primarily serve Chickballapur and Bangarpet. Constructing the terminal at Hejjala or Bidadi would be more advantageous, as these locations connect to areas in western and northern parts of the State, as well as to Chennai and Tamil Nadu," he said.

KIA to spread wings with more flights, new routes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) which was recently designated as a 'large airport' will be adding more flights and new routes from March.

Ho Chi Minh City has become KIA's latest international destination as Vietjet announced flight operations from Bengaluru.

The airline has announced that flights connecting Ho Chi Minh City with Bengaluru will commence on March 19, with three return flights per week on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

A file photo of Kempegowda International Airport. Bengaluru along with Hyderabad are the two new Indian destinations of Vietje.

Two new destinations

Bengaluru along with Hyderabad are the two new Indian destinations of Vietjet which currently operates flights from New Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad and Kochi. "Bengaluru is one of India's largest and fastest-growing cities, the capital of Karnataka, known as a leading technology hub and the Silicon Valley of India. Hyderabad, the capital of Telangana State, is one of the most beloved cities in India. It is known as the City of Pearls and has captured many travelers. Additionally, people and tourists from India will have opportunities to visit Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam's most vibrant city, famous for its street food, and explore destinations across the Asia-Pacific with Vietjet's flight network," the airline said.

On the domestic front, Air India Express will commence services from Hindon on March 1 with direct flights to Bengaluru.

Bookings open

Bookings for the new flights are now open on the airline's website, airindiaexpress.com, as well as other major booking platforms, with inaugural fares starting at ₹6,000 for Bengaluru-Hindon, and ₹6,200 for Hindon-Bengaluru. The airline will operate six days in the week except on Saturday.

In addition, Japan Airlines (JAL) has announced that during the summer schedule period it will increase its frequency on the Tokyo (Narita)-Bengaluru route.

"To accommodate the high demand, the Narita-Bengaluru route will increase frequency to daily from March 30 to October 25," the airline said.

JAL currently operates five flights per week on this route making KIA the the only airport in South India with direct connection to Japan.

Man part of clinical trial dies, family blames R&D firm

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 33-year-old man, Nagesh Veeranna, who was part of a medical trial carried out by a Research and Development (R&D) firm in the city, was found dead at his brother's residence in Jalahalli on Wednesday morning.

His brother Revansiddappa has alleged that he died of the side effects of the medicines that were tried on him by an Electronics City-based R&D firm.

In his complaint, Revanasiddappa, who works as a driver at the firm, said that his brother did not have any health issues before becoming part of the clinical trials carried out by Syngene International.

He said in December 2024, his brother Nagesh had been admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) of a private hospital and the company had called him. He claimed that his brother told him that he had developed stomach ache after taking tablets and injections by the company as part of the trial.

However, he recovered and since then has been residing with his brother in Jalahalli.

His brother said Nagesh had been regularly visiting the company to get his health tested, the complaint said.

On Tuesday night, the duo had dinner and slept. Revanasiddappa said when he found Nagesh was not waking up on Wednesday morning he called the doctor from the R&D firm. The doctor asked him to rush Nagesh to the same hospital, where he was earlier treated in the ICU, and the doctors declared him "brought dead".

The Jalahalli police have registered a case of unnatural death and are further probing the case.

New medical colleges in Kanakapura, Ramanagara unlikely in 2025-26

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

Ahead of the National Medical Commission (NMC) review of medical colleges in Karnataka, the Directorate of Medical Education has been directed to appoint senior residents and other faculty members to fill vacancies in 16 government medical colleges and the two new colleges proposed in Kanakapura and Ramanagara, in the next three months.

However, the department is now scrambling to fill these vacancies, raising questions about whether it will be able to do it on time. The time for recruiting all required faculty members for the two new colleges is insufficient and multiple sources said that it was unlikely that these will start functioning next academic year as well.

B.L. Sujatha Rathod, Director, Directorate of Medical Education said that Medical Education Minister Sharan Prakash Patil chaired a meeting over the issue on Thursday. "It has been decided that required senior residents will be appointed from the directorate's funds and a proposal for recruitment of the remaining staff will be submitted to the Finance Department," she said.

This comes in the backdrop of NMC imposing fines on 16 government medical colleges for vacancies and rejecting applications for opening new medical colleges in Kanakapura and Ramanagara over non-recruitment of teaching faculty and infrastructure in 2024-25.

Following this, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar chaired a meeting in 2024 and directed the department to ensure the lacuna is fixed by 2025-26. However, the department has taken up the issue only now, following pressure from Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS).

RGUHS Registrar had written a letter to the Department of Medical Education stating that further steps will be taken to apply to the NMC to start the new colleges in Kanakapura and Ramanagara only if the government gave an undertaking regarding the recruitment of staff within the stipulated time frame.

To this, Principal Secretary, Medical Education Department, on January 13 responded: "The recruitment of teaching posts in these institutions will be completed within the specified time frame".

"As per the undertaking, teaching staff will be appointed for these colleges within the stipulated time frame," Dr. Rathod said.

Sixteen government medical colleges in the State have a shortage of teaching staff and the NMC imposed penalties of ₹2 lakh to ₹15 lakh on these colleges last year. All teaching vacancies have to now be filled in the next few months to avoid any restrictions being imposed for admissions in these colleges for 2025-26.

Sudeep turns down State film award

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after he won the best actor honour in the Karnataka State Film Awards for 2019, Kannada superstar Sudeep has declined the award. Sudeep was adjudged the best actor for his performance in the sports drama *Pailwaan*.

Sudeep

Mr. Sudeep took to *X* to tell his decision. The actor said that he has stopped receiving awards for "various personal reasons." "Respected Government of Karnataka and Members of the Jury. It is truly a privilege to have received the State Award under the Best Actor category, and I extend my heartfelt thanks to the respected jury for this honour.

"However, I must express that I have chosen to stop receiving awards for several years now, a decision made for various personal reasons that I intend to uphold. There are many deserving actors who have poured their hearts into their craft and would appreciate this prestigious recognition far more than I would. It will only make me happier to see one of them receiving it," he added.

The actor apologised to the State government for his decision. "I am grateful to every jury member for selecting me, as this recognition is, in itself, my reward. I sincerely apologise to the jury members and the state government for any disappointment my decision may cause, and I trust you will respect my choice and support me on the path I have chosen," he wrote.

Man jumps to death at mall

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

People at Mantri Square, Malleswaram, were in for a shock on Thursday night when a middle-aged man suddenly climbed over the railings and jumped to his death from the second floor.

Security guards immediately rushed him to a nearby hospital, where he was declared 'brought dead.'The Malleswaram police identified the deceased as Manjunath T.C., 55, a resident of Ullal Upanagar in the city. Hailing from Tiptur, Tumakuru district, he was running a business in the city.

The police have found a note in his pocket, in which he has blamed his financial problems for his extreme step. A preliminary inquiry has revealed that he had a debt of around ₹2 crore.

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: KIRAN 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help)

CM announces market system for organic products at APMCs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday announced that from the next financial year, a market system for organic products will be implemented in Karnataka's Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMC). He was speaking at the inauguration of the International Trade Fair - Organics and Millets 2025.

He also demanded that the Union government sanction a minimum selling price (MSP) for millets which has been a long standing demand of farmers.

He further said that the government was committed to promoting millet farming by providing support for its cultivation, marketing, and other facilities.

The Chief Minister also said that his family was also cultivating millets and remembered the popular saying "ragi thindavanu nirogi" (the one who eats ragi will not have any disease).

"Karnataka is third in the country when it comes to cultivation area and production of millets. With the aim of establishing a systematic market and supply chain for organic products and millets, our government introduced the organic farming policy in 2017. To raise awareness about organic farming among the State's farmers, the government also launched the Organic Bhagya Yojana in 2013," Mr. Siddaramaiah said.

An Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool called Mili is a special addition to this year's three-day fair. Upon scanning a QR code at the entrance to the fair, Mili will guide the users with introductions and explanations of various stalls at the fair along with information about international workshops, and other activities in the mela.

Feast for the eyes: Millets and its products displayed at Palace Grounds on Thursday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

NPKL development: BDA Commissioner summoned

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Legislative Assembly Petition Committee has summoned Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) Commissioner N. Jayaram to appear in person on January 30 to address concerns regarding the lack of progress in developing the Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout (NPKL).

Mr. Jayaram did not turn up for the hearing on Thursday, citing a court appearance. Instead, engineer-member H.R. Shantharajanna represented the BDA and Deputy Secretary Prashanth appeared on behalf of the Urban Development Department.

Poor infrastructure

During the proceedings, Suresh Kumar, member and MLA, criticised the BDA for failing to deliver the promised basic infrastructure, despite being granted two extensions.

The most recent deadline, which expired in November 2024, showed minimal progress. Mr. Kumar also questioned the BDA's decision to prioritise asphalting roads in the Shivaram Karanth Layout, where sites are yet to be allotted, instead of the NPKL, which has 10,000 allottees.

Many of these allottees are senior citizens who have invested their life savings to build houses but are unable to do so owing to the absence of essential infrastructure, like roads, drainage, electricity, and drinking water. Some residents who had started construction were facing hardships, members noted.

The hidden dangers of Rhodamine B: a global and local perspective

Rhodamine B is a synthetic dye utilised in industries such as textiles, paper, and leather. Its application extends to scientific research due to its fluorescent properties. However, its use in consumable products is fraught with health risks. Studies indicate it can cause DNA damage, leading to mutations and potentially triggering cancerous growths

Monisha Madhumita

Imagine indulging in an appetizing looking, sweet treat, only to discover it contains a dye primarily used in textiles and linked to cancer. This alarming reality has prompted significant health interventions worldwide, including recent decisive actions in India.

Rhodamine B is a synthetic dye known for its bright pink hue, commonly utilised in industries such as textiles, paper, and leather. Its application extends to scientific research due to its fluorescent properties. However, its use in consumable products is fraught with health risks. Studies indicate that Rhodamine B can cause DNA damage, leading to mutations and potentially triggering cancerous growths.

Animal research has demonstrated tumour development in organs like the liver and bladder following prolonged exposure to the dye.

Recognising its potential dangers, many countries have put in place strict regulations on use of Rhodamine B. In the United States, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has long prohibited its use in food products, classifying it as unsafe for human consumption. A recent ban issued by the FDA in January 2025 further reinforces these restrictions, prohibiting the use of Rhodamine B in any food-related applications due to increasing evidence of its carcinogenic properties.

The FDA cited growing concerns over children's exposure to high levels of the dye in candies, baked goods, and other processed foods, prompting an urgent call for manufacturers to reformulate their products. This ban stems from studies indicating its potential carcinogenicity and other health risks. Similarly, the European Union classifies Rhodamine B as a substance of very high concern, restricting its use in cosmetics and other consumer goods.

Indian perspective

In India, the rampant use of Rhodamine B in food items has raised significant health concerns. The dye has been illegally employed to enhance the visual appeal of various consumables, posing serious health risks to consumers. Over the last few years, action has been taken by various Indian states and these highlight the growing awareness of these dangers . In February 2024, Tamil Nadu banned the production and sale of cotton candy after the Government Food Analysis Laboratory in Chennai detected Rhodamine B in samples collected from

Animal research has demonstrated tumour development in organs such as the liver and bladder following prolonged exposure to the dye. FILE PHOTO.

vendors. Health Minister Ma Subramanian emphasised that the use of Rhodamine B in food violates the Food Safety and Standards Act of 2006, categorising such products as unsafe. The ban aims to raise public awareness about the hazards associated with coloured candies and ensure that only safe, colour-free cotton candy is available.

Following Tamil Nadu's lead, other Indian states and territories have taken similar measures. Karnataka, in March 2024, prohibited the use of Rhodamine B in popular street foods like "Gobi Manchurian" and cotton candy. Minister for Health and Family Welfare in the Government of Karnataka, Dinesh Gundu Rao, announced stringent penalties for violators, including imprisonment of up to seven years and fines reaching ₹10 lakh. Laboratory tests revealed the presence of harmful chemicals in numerous samples collected across the state.

Puducherry also followed suit by banning the sale of cotton candy containing Rhodamine B. Food safety officers have been directed to conduct inspections and take strict action against violators to safeguard public health. In May 2024, Himachal Pradesh instituted a one-year ban on the production, sale, and storage of cotton candy after detecting Rhodamine B in samples. This preventive measure aims to protect consumers from the potential carcinogenic effects of the dye.

Mohammed Mithi, Consultant Surgical Oncologist at Saifee Hospital in Mumbai, explains, "Synthetic dyes, including Rhodamine B, may pose carcinogenic risks due to certain chemical components. Some dyes, like azo dyes,

> Synthetic dyes, when used in concentrations approved by regulatory bodies, are generally safe. However, in sensitive individuals, they can lead to allergic reactions such as itching, redness, and skin thickening

can break down into aromatic amines, which are known carcinogens. Laboratory studies have shown that specific synthetic dyes can induce DNA damage, oxidative stress, and promote tumour growth in animal models. While concrete evidence in humans is limited, long-term exposure to unregulated products remains a concern." He further adds that certain groups, such as children, the elderly, and immunocompromised individuals, are more susceptible to these harmful effects due to their body's reduced ability to metabolise and detoxify harmful substances.

Abyramy Balasundaram, consultant dermatologist at Cosmediq Hair Transplant and Skin Clinic, Chennai, states, "Synthetic dyes, when used in concentrations approved by regulatory bodies, are generally safe. However, in sensitive individuals, they can lead to allergic reactions such as itching, redness, and skin thickening. Long-term exposure to synthetic dyes like Rhodamine B can result in chronic allergic reactions and permanent skin pigmentation changes. Although there is no definitive link to cancer in humans through topical application, it is always advisable to opt for products from reputable brands with proper labeling."

She further notes, "The European Union was among the first to ban Rhodamine B in cosmetics in the early 1990s due to concerns about its potential carcinogenic effects and skin sensitisation risks. This move has paved the way for stricter global regulations on synthetic dyes in personal care products."

India's food safety ecosystem

Priyadarshini Chidambaram, Community Health Specialist and Researcher, Bengaluru, says, "The ecosystem in India for research into food dyes safety is weak. There is a need for proactive funding and commissioning of independent research by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to study the impact of additives, especially synthetic dyes, on public health based on Indian diet practices through collaborations with academic and research institutions. We must build a robust system of rapid scientific reviews and proactive policy implementation to be on par with international recommendations on food safety instead of reacting to a public health crisis or just joining the bandwagon of international ban trends."

She adds, "There needs to be active testing for harmful food dyes and enforcement of strict action against both errant big brands and smaller establishments and vendors. The fact that a state-level ban was necessary to bring attention to harmful dyes like Rhodamine B is a wake-up call. It underscores the need for FSSAI to play a more visible role in educating the public about unsafe food practices. There is a definite knowledge gap among the public on food standards. We must harness the growing digital and social media influence to disseminate information on safe food additives and food label warnings. Community education and engagement are needed to tackle the menace of harmful additives."

The case of Rhodamine B serves as an important reminder of the hidden dangers that lurk in seemingly innocuous products. It underscores the collective responsibility of governments, industries, and consumers to prioritise health over aesthetics. By staying informed and vigilant, we can ensure that the foods we enjoy are not only appealing but also safe. As medical professionals aptly put it, "The health of a nation begins with the safety of its food. It's time we prioritise long-term well-being over short-term convenience."

(Dr. Monisha Madhumita is a consultant dermatologist at Saveetha Medical College, Chennai and member of the International Alliance for Global Health Dermatology, London, UK. mail.monisha.m@gmail.com)

THE GIST

In the U.S., the FDA has long prohibited Rhodamine B in food due to evidence of its carcinogenic properties. The FDA cited growing concerns over children's exposure to high levels of the dye in candies, baked goods, and other processed foods

In February 2024, Tamil Nadu banned production and sale of cotton candy after it detected Rhodamine B. Such products are graded as unsafe and substandard. The ban aims to raise public awareness and ensure only safe, colour-free cotton candy is available

According to doctors: 'Specific synthetic dyes can induce DNA damage, oxidative stress, and promote tumour growth in animal models. While concrete evidence in humans is limited, long-term exposure to unregulated products remains a concern'

Rhodamine B serves as an important reminder of the hidden dangers that lurk in seemingly innocuous products. It underscores the collective responsibility of governments, industries, and consumers to prioritise health over aesthetics

BIG SHOT

Mosquito repellent is sprayed as part of a prevention campaign against dengue fever in Banda Aceh on January 22. AFP

Study to determine how many people use life jackets

Zubeda Hamid

Just about a month ago, India was rocked by the death of 15 persons, including four women and two children, who died after an Indian Navy speedboat crashed into a ferry, leading to its capsizing off the Mumbai coast. The ferry was carrying passengers to Elephanta Island, a UNESCO world heritage site and popular tourist destination.

The incident threw the spotlight, once again, on water safety in India after survivors alleged that the ferry did not have enough life jackets for its passengers, and officials said the vessel was carrying over 100 passengers against its capacity of 90.

A staggering 71% of deaths caused by drowning in India are due to accidental falls into water bodies. In 2022, India reported 256 boat capsizes as per the National Crime Records Bureau's (NCRB) statistics.

And yet, usage of life jackets and the implementation of regulations requiring life jackets on water transport facilities, remain poor, says Jagnoor Jagnoor, a public health researcher and programme lead for injury at The George Institute for Global Health.

To understand how often people wear life jackets and how more usage can be encouraged, the Indian Council of Medical Research's (ICMR), as part of its first-ever initiative on drowning prevention, has now begun a study.

Focused on fishermen, boat operators, and tourists in Tamil Nadu and Kerala, where water transport use is common, the study aims to find out how many people wear life jackets and why they choose to wear or not wear them. It also aims at developing a strategy to encourage more people to use life jackets

Fire, and Police personnel search for missing people on a lake. MURALI KUMAR K

by engaging with experts and local communities. The study will then evaluate if this plan was effective in increasing the use of life jackets and therefore reducing the risk of drowning. The project is also expected to develop a tested behaviour change intervention to improve the use of life jacket wear among boaters.

This is "the first research in India aimed at gathering evidence to promote life jacket use and reduce risk of drowning," the ICMR said in an email communication to *The Hindu*.

The ICMR is collaborating with The George Institute for Global Health, India, on this project. Dr. Jagnoor, who is working on the project said that overall, we know very little about where drowning happens, especially among adults. While globally, children aged under 5 account for the largest single share of drowning deaths, in India, the picture, as per NCRB statistics, is a little different: over half of all drowning deaths (51%) are amongst the economically active 18 to 44 age group.

More men than women in India die of drowning: over 80% were men, as per NCRB figures.

Higher risk for males

"While the risk is higher for males, attributed generally to higher exposure to water and risk-taking behaviour, a chunk of drowning deaths in India are caused by hazardous occupational settings – livelihood hazards," Dr. Jagnoor said.

According to the ICMR, the project has received about ₹60 lakh in funding; it is one of three projects funded under ICMR's drowning prevention initiative with a total budget of around ₹2 crore. "Due to the huge coastlines in the Southern States and the frequent use of water transport, the study is based in these two States. It will involve 1,400 people using water vessels. It is being conducted in Alappuzha and Thrissur in Kerala, as well as Tiruvallur and Nagappatinam in Tamil Nadu," Dr. Jagnoor said.

Wearing a proper life jacket can increase survival chances in water accidents by over seven times, yet very few people use them consistently, the ICMR said.

While there has been an increase in awareness about ensuring there are life jackets and life buoys on board boats, fishermen still, for the most part, do not wear life jackets while fishing, said E. Ragupathi, a boat owner and ex-president of the Chennai Mechanised Boat Owners Association. Primarily, he said, this was because fishermen found the jackets uncomfortable and cumbersome. "The life jackets available here are very thick – about eight inches or so – making them uncomfortable to wear for long durations. These are water-resistant, not waterproof. The better quality jackets used by the Navy, for instance, are only three inches thick and are waterproof. But even the government subsidies are for the thick, water resistant jackets that have to be replaced every two years," he said.

Fishermen instead, used life buoys more, Mr. Ragupathi said, finding them more convenient and useful. He added however that even now, more water safety awareness is needed, along with basic first-aid training for the community.

A senior official of the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Department said that awareness of and enforcement of rules regarding life saving buoyancy/floatation devices to be carried on small vessels were essential. "Some small vessels do not carry them due to space constraints. But in cases of accidents, cyclones, or inclement weather, flotation devices become crucial in the sea."

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CET-2025: KEA to conduct two preparatory exams at college level

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A file photo of students writing the Common Entrance Test.

In a first, the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) has decided to conduct two preparatory examinations for Karnataka Common Entrance Test (KCET-2025) aspirants to familiarise with the exam pattern.

The preparatory exam will be conducted in all the Pre-University (PU) colleges in the State, with question papers prepared at the college level. The KEA will provide the Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) sheets.

Considering that several students, mostly those from rural areas, get confused while writing KCET on OMR sheets, the KEA has decided to conduct preparatory examination. At least 10 % to 15% of students who appear for KCET were found committing mistakes in the previous years on this count, said KEA. "When students are used to writing descriptive answers, it is common to get confused while attempting OMR and it may lead to mistakes also. So we have introduced preparatory exams," said Prasanna H., Executive Director of KEA.

KEA has asked the colleges to conduct two preparatory exams and sent eight OMR per student (four subjects 4\2 OMR) to the colleges. Principals of the respective colleges have been asked to prepare a question paper for 60 marks and conduct preparatory exams.

Registrations begin

On day one of the KCET-2025 registration, as many as 3,738 (till 6.30 p.m.) have registered on Thursday.It is the first time KEA has introduced an OTP-based, artificial intelligence (AI) generated facial recognition system. However, there were no technical glitches reported from students while submitting the applications online.

Instructions to PU colleges

- Prepare question papers at the college level
- 60 marks question papers for every subject
- Educate students about filling up and answering on OMR sheets
- Collect OMR sheets from students and give them carbon copies after exam
- Conduct evaluation at the college level
- Destroy all the OMR booklets of preparatory exams before the KCET 2025

Two mobile phones, SIM card seized from undertrial

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Mobile phones continue to ring at the high-security Bengaluru Central Prison. During a surprise inspection prison officials caught a 28-year-old undertrial and recovered two mobile phones and a SIM card from him recently.

The accused identified as Mohammed Irfan, was carrying the mobile phones in his pant pocket and was caught by prison officials during a surprise check at barrack no. 8. Irfan was booked under section 323 (fraudulent removal or concealment of property) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

Earlier, prison officials found a mobile phone abandoned outside room 6 at the convicts' barrack on January 15.

The officials have reported the incident with the Parappana Agrahara police, seeking a detailed probe.

It may be recalled that the Prisons Department stepped up security with advanced jammers, and heightened vigilance, patrolling, surprise checks, and multilevel checks after film actor Darshan was caught using a mobile phone.

Despite this smuggling of mobile phones continues unabated on the prison premises.

Cab driver ends life over domestic dispute

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 39-year-old cab driver ended his life after a fight with his wife over a domestic row at NGEF Layout in Jnana Bharathi on Thursday. The deceased was identified as Manjunath.

He and Nayana Raj, a makeup artist, got married in 2013 and the couple have a nine-year-old boy.

According to the police, the couple had marital differences and applied for a divorce two years ago.

The wife was staying at her parents' house. Manjunath was trying to convince her to withdraw the case and was asking her to come back.

Heated argument

On Thursday morning, he went to talk with her again. Nayana did not open the door and following a heated argument, Manjunath poured a chemical over himself and set himself ablaze outside the house. He was rushed to hospital, but succumbed to his injuries.

Manjunath's mother, in her complaint, accused Nayana, her father, and her sister blaming them for the death.

Based on the complaint, the police have registered a case of unnatural death and are further probing the case.

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: KIRAN 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help)

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, JAN. 24	
RISE	06:46 SET 18:17
RISE	02:00 SET 13:34
SATURDAY, JAN. 25	
RISE	06:46 SET 18:17
RISE	02:53 SET 14:22
SUNDAY, JAN. 26	
RISE	06:46 SET 18:18
RISE	03:50 SET 15:17

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	28	20
Mysuru	28	16
Bengaluru	29	15

Bengaluru Today
28°C Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be comfortable. Night also will be cool.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be cool and hazy.

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THE HINDU
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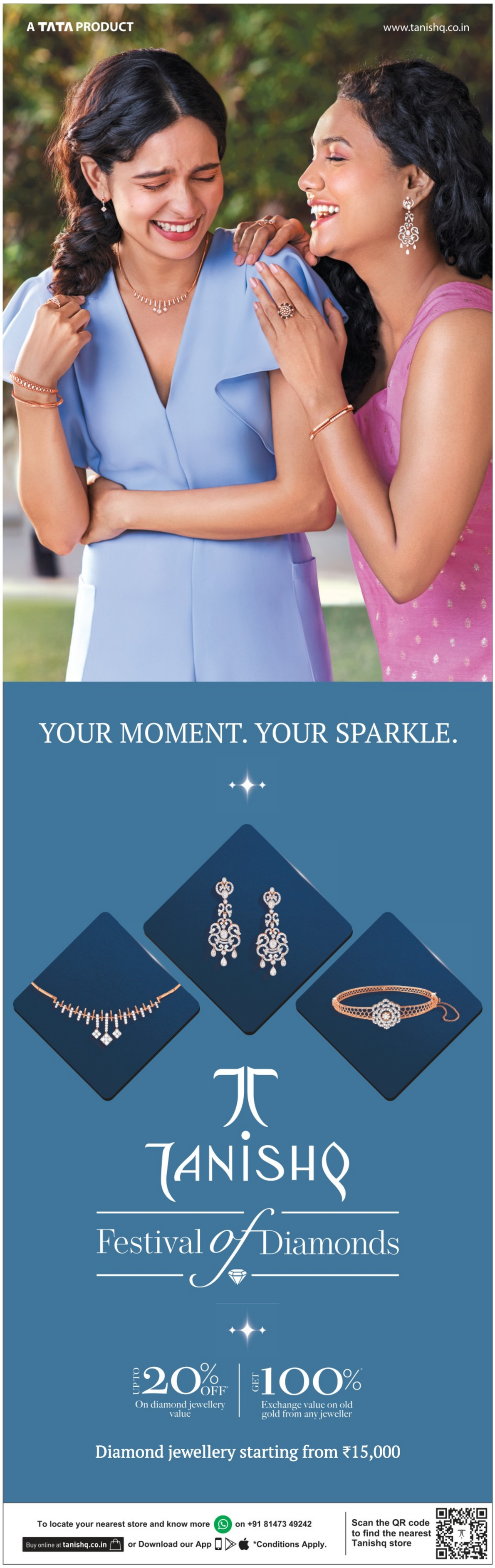

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Number of voters in Bihar over 120 years old

143 Bihar has a total of 7,80,22,933 electors of which 41,000 are registered centenarian voters according to the latest Election Commission data. The data shows that the State has 16,07,527 electors who are in the age group from 80 years to 120 years and above. PTI

Number of schools closed in Bangkok due to air pollution

200 Air pollution forced schools in Bangkok to close on Thursday, authorities said, as officials urged people to work from home and restricted heavy vehicles. By Thursday morning, the Thai capital was the sixth most polluted major city in the world, according to IQAir. AFP

Funds to be raised by IREDA via qualified institutional placement

5000 in ₹ crore. State-owned IREDA said its board has approved a plan to raise funds through the qualified institutional placement route. The company said the financial resources will support the demand for green energy financing. PTI

Record number of pilgrims taking a dip at Maha Kumbh

10 in crore. The ongoing Maha Kumbh has crossed a milestone for pilgrims taking a dip at the Triveni Sangam. The government highlighted that the number of pilgrims has been consistently rising, with lakhs arriving daily to bathe and gain spiritual merit. PTI

Soldiers dead in an ambush by ex-Philippine rebels

2 Former Muslim rebels ambushed government troops assigned to escort UN staff visiting the southern Philippines wounding 12 others. The UN and the Philippine military both condemned Wednesday's attack on Basilan Island. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Is France's influence in West Africa over?

Why did Chad, Ivory Coast, and Senegal ask for the withdrawal of French troops? What does the withdrawal signify for Europe's waning influence in Africa? How has Russia benefited from this?

EXPLAINER

Anu Maria Joseph
Padmashree Anandhan

The story so far:

On January 1, Ivory Coast President Alassane Ouattara announced that French troops would withdraw from the country by the end of the month. On December 26, in Chad, France handed over its military base in Faya-Largeau and began the withdrawal of troops following the termination of a defence cooperation agreement in November. On December 3, Senegalese President Bassirou Diomaye Faye called for the closure of all French military bases, commenting that their presence was "incompatible" with the country's national sovereignty. Senegal, Ivory Coast, and Chad have joined three West African countries – Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso – asking for French troop's withdrawal, marking a major blow to France's waning influence in the region.

Why did Chad, Ivory Coast, and Senegal ask for French troop's withdrawal?

First, the narrative on incompatibility with national sovereignty. France has around 1,000 troops in Chad, 600 in Ivory Coast, and 350 in Senegal. Since independence, France had colonial pacts with these former colonies to maintain economic, political, and military influences, referred to as 'Françafrique'. In Senegal and Ivory Coast, French troops have been stationed since 2014 as part of Operation Barkhane. For Chad, the defence pact existed for decades and does not align with its security requirements. Chad's President Mahamat Daby says ending the defence agreements is like taking back national sovereignty. Ivory Coast and Senegal have followed in similar footsteps for a reciprocal relationship that respects each other's independence and sovereignty.

Second, public dissatisfaction over French presence. French troops have been fighting insurgent groups linked to the Islamic state and al Qaeda across West Africa since 2014. Despite their military presence, French troops failed to quell the insurgency in the region. Besides, it has spread, degenerated, and intensified across the region. This raised anti-French sentiments alongside a public demand for their withdrawal.

Power shift: French troops have been fighting insurgent groups linked to the Islamic state and al Qaeda across West Africa since 2014. AFP

Third, West Africa's quest to move beyond France. Recently, many West African countries have shown interest in diversifying their relations from traditional colonial to new partners. The military governments in West Africa, Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso, have built military ties with Russian mercenaries to fight insurgency. For military leaders, Russian mercenaries do not come with the baggage of adhering to democratic values. Besides, Russia has successfully spread an image as a better security provider in Africa.

What does French withdrawal mean for African countries?

For Africa, French withdrawal means the end of France's decades-long influence. However, in Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso, French withdrawal and Russia's arrival has not addressed or contained insurgency. Rather, these three countries rank among the top in the Global Terrorism Index 2024 by the Institute for Economics & Peace. The military regimes have strengthened in the region with the new Alliance of Sahel states between Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso. The common anti-French sentiments would likely bring Chad, Senegal, and Ivory Coast to join the Sahel alliance and an opportunity to boost regional counter-terrorism efforts.

What does the withdrawal mean for France?

The withdrawal would have four implications – first, the obituary of the 'Françafrique'. Under French President Emmanuel Macron, the withdrawal marks the end of "Françafrique," giving prominence to maintaining a strong economic and diplomatic foothold. Second, the decline in political influence affects economic relations. Since 2010, President Ouattara has been in term with support from France; however former president Gbagbo's reemergence in 2020 challenged political stability. Without political influence, fulfilling France's economic interests can be problematic. Third, a waning military presence would impact international reputation. The military has supported pro-France African leaders to maintain political and economic stability. French Armed Forces have been stationed in support of UN operations since the Ivorian Civil War. Therefore, projecting France as a global fighter against terrorism and a defender of international values and human rights will be undermined in the new reality. Fourth, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger have pushed out French troops involuntarily, which are now either replaced by Russian mercenaries or engulfed in a military coup, making French influence impossible. It is uncertain for the Ivory Coast, given its political and economic ties with France even after independence.

Is there a larger waning European influence in Africa?

In the geopolitical era of conflicts, Europe's declining presence and the competition from Russia and China in Africa were the least focused. The EU is struggling with the shifting political landscape, security issues from the war in Ukraine, and larger economic strain; therefore handling autocracies, migrants, and anti-Europe sentiments has been put on the back burner. In the last few decades, Germany, France, and the U.K. have called down their development funding, leading to increased military coups and greater involvement of external actors. To gain a political and security presence in Africa, Russia has filled the military vacuum, while China asserts its economic influence through the Belt and Road Initiative. The EU's trade surplus has declined by 15%, from 55 billion euros to 35 billion euros between 2022 and 2023. In comparison, China maintains a surplus of more than 70 billion euros.

Militarily, Russia has benefited from the troops' withdrawals. Whether this will change the right-wing governments in Europe is worth asking. The 2024 manifestos of these parties can be useful in this regard. Their policies are more security-oriented in managing borders and migrants, rather than being economically driven. In the coming years, Europe's foreign policy approach will be more inward-looking, with few EU members looking to expand markets into Africa while facing competition from China.

The authors are Project Associates at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore

THE GIST

- West African countries are moving away from traditional colonial ties with France, seeking partnerships with global powers for security and economic cooperation.
- Chad, Ivory Coast, and Senegal requested French troop withdrawals, citing incompatibility with national sovereignty and public dissatisfaction over France's failure to curb insurgencies.
- France's withdrawal marks the end of 'Françafrique', diminishing its political, military, and economic presence in Africa, while Russia and China continue to expand their influence in the region.

How does Trump's 75-day order affect the TikTok ban?

What law led to the banning of TikTok in the U.S.? Can the President override a ban upheld by the court?

John Xavier

The story so far:

On January 20, after taking office as the 47th President of the U.S., Donald Trump signed an order that gave TikTok a 75-day lifeline. The short-video sharing platform went offline for U.S.-based users just a day earlier following a protracted legal and political battle that ended in a federal ban. TikTok appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The court upheld the ban, making both Google and Apple remove the app from their app stores. Web-hosting platforms were also ordered to cut ties with the platform or face fines of as much as $5,000 per user.

Based on what law was TikTok banned?

The controversial law, 'Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act,' signed by former President Joe Biden aimed at blocking apps controlled by the U.S.'s foreign adversaries from operating in the country. It specifically targeted TikTok, owned and controlled by ByteDance, a Chinese firm. The goal is to prevent potential threats to national security from apps that may be used for espionage, data collection, and other harmful activities.

How does the law apply?

Under the law, some apps controlled by foreign adversaries can be prohibited from being distributed, maintained, or hosted in the U.S. However, it does allow an exception for apps that undergo a "qualified divestiture," meaning they can be sold or restructured in a way that reduces foreign control.

To enforce the ban, the U.S. Department of Justice (DoJ) has been given the authority to investigate and impose penalties on any entity that violates the law. The penalties are determined based on how many users the app has. TikTok has over 170 million U.S.-based users. If the app is banned, users are entitled to request and receive all their account data – posts, photos, and videos–before the prohibition is enforced, ensuring they don't lose access to their content.

Any challenge to specific actions or decisions under the law must be made within 90 days of the decision. Legal disputes related to the law will be handled exclusively by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

What does Trump's order say?

Mr. Trump has noted that the timing of this enforcement is problematic as it doesn't give his administration enough time to assess the national security risks posed by TikTok or to negotiate a solution to address the risks without immediately shutting down the platform. And so, he has directed the Attorney General not to enforce the Act's provisions for 75 days. During this period, the DoJ is prohibited from imposing penalties on platforms distributing or maintaining the app.

Can the President override a ban upheld by the Supreme Court?

While a section of legal experts may recognise the broad authority granted to the President under the Constitution of the U.S. in matters of national security and foreign relations, others will raise concerns that Mr. Trump's order could undermine the Congress's authority to legislate.

Another way to look at the order is through the lens of political expediency given the popularity of TikTok. Mr. Trump may be attempting to balance national security with public relations and economic interests. In this context, the order is a temporary measure to avoid an immediate shutdown and give the new administration time to negotiate a solution with TikTok's parent company, ByteDance, or implement mitigation measures.

Ultimately, the Supreme Court may play a key role in determining whether Mr. Trump's order is consistent with constitutional principles, especially if this matter is challenged in court. If the case reaches the apex court, it could result in a landmark ruling on the separation of powers and executive authority in national security matters.

THE GIST

- TikTok was banned in the U.S. under the 'Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act,' which targets apps from foreign adversaries, to protect national security.
- President Donald Trump issued a 75-day order delaying the enforcement of the ban, citing insufficient time to assess national security risks and negotiate a solution, though legal experts debate whether this could interfere with Congress's authority.

Gadkari approves bus shelters on NH 275

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

In a major development for the residents of Kodi Shettypura and Siddapura Dhakle villages in Srirangapatna taluk in Mandya district, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has approved the construction of bus shelters under "Additional Road Safety Works" on the Bengaluru-Mysuru highway section of NH 275.

After formal request

The approval comes after a formal request from the Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy who is the MP for Mandya Lok Sabha constituency.

The exchange of letters between the two Union Ministers highlights Mr. Kumaraswamy's resolve to address the needs of rural areas in Mandya. In his letter dated September 19, 2024, Mr. Kumaraswamy emphasised the necessity of bus shelters for the villages citing the significant benefits they would provide to the local community.

Responding positively, Mr. Gadkari, in a letter dated December 30, 2024, confirmed the approval and stated that bids for the construction had already been invited.

Rama Sene activists attack salon in Mangaluru, assault staff

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

A group of Rama Sene activists allegedly attacked a salon near KSRTC bus stand, at Bejai in Mangaluru on Thursday, claiming that the salon was a centre for immoral activities. They allegedly vandalised the salon, verbally abused and assaulted some staff members.

Police arrested Prasad Attavar, head of Rama Sene in Mangaluru, and 13 others in this connection. He had claimed responsibility for the attack.

Police said that the group stormed into Colors, a unisex salon located in Aditya Complex near the bus stand under Barke Police Station limits, at 11.50 a.m. They threatened the female staff and vandalised the equipment.

Police gave the names of the other arrested as Harshraj, Mohan Das, Purandara, Sachin, Ravish, Suketh, Ankit, Kali Muttu, Abhilash, Deepak, Vignesh, Pradeep Poojary, and Sharan Raj, who is a camera man of a local TV channel. A statement said the police were investigating if the arrested persons had any specific roles and whether there was any involvement of other persons, and added that members of a "certain organisation" were involved in the incident.

Colors Unisex Salon on the 2nd floor of Aditya commercial complex near KSRTC bus stand at Bejai, in Mangaluru. H.S. MANJUNATH

The Barke police registered a case in this connection based on the complaint by the salon owner Sudheer Shetty.

The case was filed under Sections 329 (2), 324 (5), 74, 351 (3), 115 (2), 109, 352 and 190 of BNS.

Meanwhile, speaking to presspersons in Udupi Home Minister G. Parameshwara said that if any illegal activities took place, they (those who attacked) should have given a police complaint. Taking law into one's own hands will not be allowed, he said.

Minister in charge of Dakshina Kannada Dinesh Gundu Rao, in Ramanagara said that, "Rama Sene has indulged in goondaism. It is not correct. Indulging in such "moral policing" will be a hindrance to the growth of Mangaluru."

Karnataka govt. decides to drop proposal to acquire palace land for road widening

'Value of Transferable Development Rights fixed by the Supreme Court is expected to cause financial burden on the State exchequer and will have adverse impact on financial discipline'

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

Over 15 years after notifying the Bangalore Palace Grounds land for widening the traffic-heavy Ballari Road and Jayamahal Road, the Karnataka government has decided to drop the proposal to acquire the palace land.

The reason cited is that the Transferable Development Rights (TDR) value fixed by the Supreme Court has made the acquisition unviable. The value of TDR is estimated to be around ₹3,011 crore based on the rate fixed by the Supreme Court.

While the Cabinet on Thursday decided to file an interim application before the Supreme Court seeking urgent hearing of the validity of the Bangalore Palace Acquisition Act, 1996, it has also decided to drop the land acquisition, it has come to light.

Contempt proceedings

The decision was made in the light of contempt proceedings coming up in the court.

Though the Cabinet has decided not to acquire the land, the government has decided to provide TDR for 1,217.41 square metres that has been utilised already for the construction of Jayamahal underpass. The value of this TDR is estimated to be ₹24.83 crore. The unutilised land will be returned.

The State government had notified the Bangalore Palace Grounds land for widening the traffic-heavy Ballari Road and Jayamahal Road. FILE PHOTO

"The Supreme Court rate for the TDR to be given for land acquisition is expected to cause financial burden on the State exchequer and will have adverse impact on financial discipline," a Cabinet note said. The Cabinet also felt that financially unviable projects are against public interest and public policy.

The Supreme Court has fixed ₹2,83,500 per square metre on Ballari Road and ₹2,04,000 per square metre on Jayamahal Road as the TDR. The total value of the TDR to be given to the erstwhile royal family is estimated to be ₹3,011.66 crore for 15 acres and 17.5 guntas or about 62,475.27 square metres that was notified to be acquired in 2009.

Interestingly, the Bangalore Development Authority, in 2024, fixed ₹120.68 per square metre that would amount to about ₹11 crore for the sprawling 472 acres. The calculation was based on the 1996 value of the land when the Palace Acquisition Act came into force.

Acknowledging the development, sources said that the State government's decision would be conveyed to the court when the contempt hearing comes up. Though the case came for hearing on Wednesday, it was directed that the case be placed before the Bench that issued the order on December 10, 2024.

The Cabinet also felt that the TDR for 62,475.27 square metres will be utilised in the central areas of Bengaluru, which is expected to throw urban planning in disarray and result in choking of traffic.

"In case, the Supreme Court rules the Palace Acquisition Act in the government's favour, the sold TDR can neither be taken back nor cancelled," the Cabinet felt.

'No outgo'

Meanwhile, Raja Chandra Urs, son-in-law of the last Maharaja of Mysore Jayachamaraja Wadiyar, asked how the TDR would burden the State exchequer. "There is no outgo from the exchequer. They are wilfully creating problems for the family and have remained hostile."

"In 2009, acquisition was ordered for public purpose. Now has that purpose been forgotten?" he asked.

Alternative proposal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Though acquisition of the palace land has been dropped, the road widening project is still under consideration with an initial proposal being made to acquire certain land on the opposite side of the palace ground, both on Ballari Road and Jayamahal Road, with little change to the alignment.

"Here are lot of land parcels belonging to the government that will make acquisition cheaper and easier also. Since the alignment could get changed, the TDR proposal can be dropped," government sources said.

Sources said that the proposal to acquire parcels of private land is expected to cost less that ₹1,000 crore and will extend beyond the Hebbal flyover. An estimated two lakh persons commute on the road per hour during peak hours and around 60,000 during the off peak hours.

Sources said that with the tunnel project also gaining momentum, it was thought that traffic congestion on Ballari Road is expected to reduce, and that there will be no need for road widening.

GalaxEye deploys GLX-SQ payload aboard ISRO's POEM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Space start-up GalaxEye on Thursday announced the successful deployment of its GLX-SQ payload aboard ISRO's PSLV Orbital Experimental Module (POEM) platform which was launched on December 30, 2024.

The start-up said that this milestone marks a groundbreaking leap in space technology, as it features the world's first-ever fusion of Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) and optical imagery in orbit– a transformative achievement set to redefine remote sensing capabilities.

This first-of-its-kind integration of SAR and optical imagery addresses critical needs across sectors, including Defence, agriculture, and disaster response.

"By fusing these two technologies, the payload offers enhanced insights that go beyond the capabilities of traditional remote sensing methods. The ability to process and compress large volumes of data, converting analog signals into digital format in under 10 minutes, positions GalaxEye as a leader in delivering efficient, real-time solutions for real-world challenges," it said.

Suyash Singh, CEO & co-founder of GalaxEye, said: "By fusing SAR and optical imagery in orbit, we've set a new benchmark for earth observation. This mission showcases our commitment to innovation and our ability to deliver fast, actionable insights for critical sectors like Defence, agriculture, and disaster response. It's not just a technological milestone but the beginning of a journey to redefine the possibilities of remote sensing and space-based solutions."

It added that GalaxEye is gearing up for Mission Drishti, a flagship multi-sensor satellite delivering all-weather, high-resolution imaging, reinforcing its reputation as a pioneer in shaping satellite technology for space exploration and practical earth applications.

Inquiry against policeman for 'misbehaving' with a family

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An inquiry has been ordered against a police sub-inspector for "misbehaving" with a family and creating a ruckus following a row over parking on the Ghati Subramanya temple premises in Doddaballapura on Thursday.

Somashekhar of Madanayakanahalli police station, deployed on duty at the temple, reportedly objected to the family parking their car on the temple premises. It was alleged that after heated arguments, he snatched the car key, kicked the car door denting it, and hurled abuses at the family.

C. K. Baba, SP, Bengaluru Rural District, has now directed the Inspector of Madanayakanahalli station to look into the issue and submit a report.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT CENTRE (HSFC),
Construction & Maintenance Group (CMG), Antariksh Bhavan, Bengaluru - 560 094, Ph:080-22172614/2613

E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, Online Item rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for the following works.

NIT No.	Title of work and NIT no.	Estimated Cost put to tender Rs.	Period of Completion	Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	Bid Clarifications	Due date & time of submission	Date of tender opening	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs.
01	Landscaping Works phase-I around the ECLSS test facility at HSFC, Devanahalli, Bengaluru (Civil & Horticulture works) **HSFC/CMG/MM/C/130/2024-25 & Dated: 23.01.2025**	20.00 Lakhs	04 Months	From 24.01.2025 (11:00 hrs) to 03.02.2025 (23.30 hrs)	From 24.01.2025 11:30 hrs) to 04.02.2025 (10.30 hrs)	05.02.2025 up to 11:00 hrs	05.02.2025 at 11:30 hrs	40,000/-
02	Providing and fixing roller blinds, vertical blinds at HSFC, Devanahalli, Bengaluru **HSFC/CMG/MM/C/131/2024-25 & Dated: 23.01.2025**	5.68 Lakhs	02 Months					11,360/-
03	Modifications of existing space for providing additional sitting area at 3rd floor of ECLSS test facility at HSFC, Devanahalli, Bengaluru (Civil Works & Electrical works) **HSFC/CMG/MM/C/132/2024-25 & Dated: 23.01.2025**	16.88 Lakhs	03 Months					33,760/-

Tender documents can be downloaded from website **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** by registering with tender wizard and paying tender processing fee. The procedure for vender registration is displayed in the above website.
Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) from website **www.isro.gov.in** for further details and Purchase of tender documents visit **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO.**

Sd/- Head CMD, CMG, HSFC

Kerala State Film Development Corporation Ltd.
Chalachitra Kalabhavan, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 014
Phone: 0471 2325325
Website: www.ksfdc.in

1. No: 6681/T2/23/KSFDC **E-TENDER NOTICE** 23.01.2025

E-Tenders are invited for Supply and Installation of Screens at **Kairali, Sree Theatres Thrissur**. Last date for bid submission of e-tender will be at **3.00 p.m. on 01.02.2025**.
Tender ID : 2025_KSFDC_727691_1, 2025_KSFDC_727627_1
For more details visit website **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Sd/- Managing Director

KARNATAKA SILK INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
3rd & 4th Floors, Public Utility Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 001. Ph: 080-25586550/25586402
Fax: 080-25587020 E-mail: info@ksicsilk.com

No. KSIC/PER/RTNDR/MP-AGENCY/02/2024-25 Date:23.01.2025

Re-Tender for Providing Manpower for KSIC Head Office, Showrooms and Units at Mysuru, T. Narasipura & Channapatna

(Through KPP Portal only)

TENDERS are invited through KPP-Portal from reputed manpower outsourcing firms/agency who can take the work for **Providing Manpower for KSIC Head Office, Showrooms and Units At Mysuru, T. Narasipura & Channapatna.**
The tenderer shall be a reputed manpower providing agency having valid registration certificate issued by Department of Labour, GOK for providing manpower services. Documentary proof in the form of Certificate of Registration issued by GOK is also to be uploaded. Tender Documents, details of the Notification, schedule terms & conditions can be downloaded from **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Pre Bid Meeting to be held on **29.01.2025 at 11.00 A.M.** Last date and time for uploading the tender along with the **EMD of Rs. 22,50,000/-** through KPP Portal is **01.02.2025 upto 3.00 P.M.** The Technical bids will be opened on **03.02.2025 at 03.30 P.M.** Further details can be had from the office of the Undersigned during working hours or KPP Portal helpdesk-080-46010000 and 080-22631200.

Sd/-
DIPR/CP/JA/4385/2024-25 GENERAL MANAGER (Proc)

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Through KPP Portal Only)

BWSSB invites Tenders from Registered Agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bengaluru-560009.

Sl No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount put to tender / EMD (In Rs.)	Last date & time for Submission of Tender	Date & time for Opening of Tender
1	South-East-2	BWSSB/EE(SE-2)/TO/PB/2948/2024-25 Date: 22.01.2025 (Call-3)	Rs. 14,49,217/- / Rs. 36,230/-	31.01.2025 upto 4.00 PM	03.02.2025 After 4.30 PM
2		BWSSB/EE(SE-2)/TO/PB/2946/2024-25 Date: 22.01.2025 (Call-3)	Rs. 70,86,992/- / Rs. 1,41,740/-		
3		BWSSB/EE(SE-2)/TO/PB/2946/2024-25 Date: 22.01.2025 (Call-3)	Rs. 98,99,587/- / Rs. 1,98,000/-		
4		BWSSB/EE(SE-2)/TO/PB/2946/2024-25 Date: 22.01.2025 (Call-3)	Rs. 64,72,402/- / Rs. 1,29,450/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (South-East-2)

The detail regarding the tender & participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/4545/Zen/2024-25

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Public Works Department
Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi

No/PWD/CKD DIV/AE-1/TENDER/2024-25/4991 DATE: 22/01/2025

Short Term E-Tender Notification

Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi has invited item wise short term e-Tenders from Eligible registered contractors for the works coming under the jurisdiction of Chikodi PWD Division 11 work under head of account 5054-MDR Improvements, amount put to tender is minimum of Rs. 40.00 Lakhs and maximum of Rs. 240.00 Lakhs.

Calendar of events for the works at Sl No. 1 to 5 & 7 to 11: 1)Pre-bid meeting date: 04-02-2025 at 11.00 AM, at The O/o the under signed. 2)Last date for queries & clarifications :05-02-2025 up to 5.30 PM, 3)Last Date of Receipt of Bids:07-02-2025 up to 5.00 PM, 4)Date of opening of Technical bids (Two Cover System): 10-02-2025 at 4.30 PM, 5)Date of opening of Financial bids (Two Cover System):"after approval of Technical bids", 6)If no bid received auto extension will be done by e-proc itself for 2 days.

Calendar of events for the work at Sl No. 6 :1)Last date for queries & clarifications : 11-02-2025 up to 5.30 PM, 2)Last Date of Receipt of Bids : 13-02-2025 up to 5.00 PM, 3)Date of opening of Technical bids (Two Cover System): 15-02-2025 at 4.30 PM, 4)Date of opening of Financial bids (Two Cover System): "after approval of Technical bids", 5)If no bid received auto extension will be done by e-proc itself for 2 days.

For more information & forms of tender can be downloaded from kppp.karnataka.gov.in & departmental web site www.kpwd.gov.in. Further details can be collected from O/o Executive Engineer Public Works Dept.,Division Chikkodi during working hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
PWD Division Chikodi.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1523/KSMCA/2024-25

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IN THE LIMELIGHT

Artistic maverick: Avant-garde director, actor, composer, and painter David Lynch passed away last week at the age of 78. AFP

What lay beneath David Lynch's unique approach to cinema?

David Lynch's evocative style, marked by surreal imagery and unconventional storytelling, reveals a deep understanding of gendered existence, exploring the complexities of women's lives through empathy; his works unravel layered narratives, offering a look at trauma and identity

Nitika Francis

A moldy, severed ear on a patch of suburban grass, filled with crawling ants. The head of an adult human sheared off and replaced by the visage of a grotesque baby alien. An extra-dimensional room fully curtained in red, inhabited by a giant, a dwarf, a cluster of nerves, and a dead girl.

David Lynch's filmography revelled in the evocative strangeness of images like this. The avant-garde director, actor, composer, and painter passed away last week at the age of 78 due to emphysema from years of smoking.

His trademark deviation from the realm of Hollywood storytelling, via surreal imagery that disrupts the spatial and temporal universe of a film or television series, proved to be so uniquely influential that this style garnered the title of "Lynchian".

The flavour of his craft came from his belief in putting forth an uncompromised vision that he, very famously, would not explain. "People have a yearning to make an intellectual sense of (cinema). And when they can't do that, it feels frustrating, but they can come up with an explanation from within if they just allow it... What something is and what something isn't, and they might agree with their friends or argue with their friends. But how could they agree or argue if they don't already know it?" he wrote in his autobiography, *Catching the Big Fish: Meditation, Consciousness, and Creativity*.

Evoking empathy

His work demands from his audience the process of feeling, rather than understanding. His use of silence, words, sound design, and colour comes together with the intent of evoking an experience specific to each member of his audience. In worlds of incomprehension, with few rational, linear, or coherent conclusions to be drawn, empathy is the most easily accessible component of Lynch's art.

Lynch pioneered surrealist cinema in Hollywood, an art movement that has, since its inception in the 1920s, deified the female and reduced her to a mysterious object of desire, a canvas to project ideas and thought-provoking visuals onto (see: Hans Bellmer's *The Doll*), rather than beings with inner complexities that deserve to be explored in their own right.

Lynch does not necessarily fall into this category. *Mulholland Drive*, widely regarded as his magnum opus, is at its surface a neo-noir about an amnesiac woman, Rita (played by Laura Harring), falling in love with Betty (played by Naomi Watts), another woman who is helping her solve the mystery of who she is. An hour into the runtime, and perhaps two hours into mulling over the film's ending, leads to a general conclusion that the film portrays the fractured psyche of a woman traumatised by the structural inner workings of Hollywood and the effects of sexual abuse via the casting couch.

In a scene now famous for its disturbing implications, a frazzled, more human Betty, who is in a different realm, identified as Diane Selwyn, sits on a couch and pleasures herself while profusely sobbing. The scene can be interpreted as a representation of women's complicated relationship with pleasure, especially in a space such as Hollywood, where the #MeToo movement in 2017 solidified that opportunities are withheld from actresses in exchange for sexual favours.

Watts' performance invokes pain and confusion in the viewer, while the story directs attention to an unavoidable struggle of presenting oneself as feminine; how much of one's sexuality is one's own choice? The blonde-brunette pairing of Watts and Harring, who is interpreted as a part of Diane's psyche, represents an internal Madonna-whore complex.

Lynch's empathetic lens on women allows him to deploy recognisable tropes without shoehorning a woman's personhood into them. *Blue Velvet*'s Dorothy Vallens (played by Isabella Rossellini) is, at first glance, a typical damsel in distress; a battered woman abused by her deranged husband. And yet, when she encounters Jeffrey Beaumont (played by Kyle Maclachlan), she pulls a knife on him and forces him to hit her and submit to her.

In 1986, when this film came out, this depiction of Vallens was famously bashed as misogynistic by veteran film critic, Roger Ebert. "...when you ask an actress to endure those experiences, you should keep your side of the bargain by putting her in an important film," he remarked in his review.

In hindsight, however, both the female leads in the film, the brunette Vallens and the blonde Sandy (played by Laura Dern), are postmodern parodies critiquing the two tropes into which women are categorised; the quintessential good girl, Sandy is overtly sweet and inexperienced, while Vallens is an emulation of Gustave Flaubert's *Madame Bovary*, seemingly sexually empowered because she wants her subjugation.

Vallens is a reflection of the trauma endured by women who are driven towards sexual acts of self-destruction and an astute look into the complexities of sexual dynamics between genders.

Dissecting womanhood

Lynch's most extensive expansion of a woman's personhood, undoubtedly, can be found in his deeply influential collaboration with Mark Foster, *Twin Peaks*. The television series, whose first two seasons aired in 1990, was one of the first works to inject auteur directing into mainstream television. The show is driven by the mystery of who killed Laura Palmer (played by Sheryl Lee) and, as it is unraveled, the audience is further exposed to the person underneath the poised dead body that washed ashore in this small town, the homecoming queen tragically robbed of her youth.

Laura is seen as the perfect girl-next-door by the people of Twin Peaks, the ideal of American girlhood. As the episodes go by, we see her self-destructive escapades and tumultuous relationships with her mother, best friend, boyfriend, secret boyfriend, and cocaine. Lynch once again breaks apart the rosy image of American suburbia, this time with a sharp focus on the nuclear family. Laura was a victim of incest perpetuated by her father Leland (played by Ray Wise), and is portrayed as such; a victim. While Lynch and Foster do foray into glamourising her destructive tendencies with strobe lights and nudity, they ultimately attribute said tendencies to her father's abuse.

Here, empathy is imparted to these characters with a delicate nuance. Leland, as it turns out, was also sexually abused by his grandfather. While this explains his perpetuation of the same abuse, it does not, by any means, justify it. Leland is still portrayed as the devil incarnate, and is revealed to be the culprit.

In the final scene of the spinoff film, *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me*, which depicts Laura's last day on earth, Laura, now dead, is seen in the red room, a realm frequented by various characters of the show from time to time. She is visited by an angel and begins to smile widely as she weeps heavily, with a sense of relief. The detective who unravelled the mystery, Dale Cooper (played again by Kyle Maclahlan), stands beside her, hand on her shoulder, a vision of empathy, not truly understanding, but understanding.

In a turbulent world of sexual abuse, constant objectification, a flattening of personhood into archetype, death was the highest act of kindness that Lynch could bequeath upon his most polarising starlet.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"The second rule is..."

"Before you go to the second rule, I'd like to tell you something. I agree that what I write should be clear. I don't agree that writing should be simple. If you use simple words, your writing or speech will be colourless. It won't be impressive."

In other words, you are saying that 'expectoration is forbidden' is more impressive than 'Don't spit'. It is unfortunate that a lot of people in our country are impressed by 'words of learned length and thund'ring sound'. Some of us think that we shall make a powerful impression if we use abstract words. The second rule I was about to tell you when I was interrupted by you is: 'Prefer the concrete to the abstract'. Abstract' refers to the ideal and the general. 'Concrete' refers to the material and the specific. Abstract nouns are generally uncountable and concrete nouns are countable. Child is a countable noun. Childhood is not. An abstract noun is generally the name of quality, action or state. Beauty, strength, poverty, growth are abstract words. Abstract nouns are generally derived from adjectives, verbs and common nouns. 'Mildness' is from 'mild', consideration is from 'consider', 'boyhood' is from 'boy'."

"Why should we prefer the concrete to the abstract?"

"The necessity of proper perception of the deterioration of the system of examination is of paramount importance. Can you change the sentence so that it can be understood more easily?"

"Let me try. 'The necessity of proper perception' can be changed to 'The need to perceive properly'; 'deterioration of the system of examination' to 'the deteriorating examination system'; 'is of paramount importance' to 'is very important'."

"Don't you think it is clearer when concrete words are used? Let us take another sentence: The implementation of this scheme will result in expenditure of an enormous amount of money. Can you change this into a simpler sentence?"

"One will have to spend a lot of money to carry out this scheme."

" You must cut out unnecessary abstract words. Then sentences become clearer, easier to understand."

"Abstract words shouldn't be used at all?"

"I don't say that. They can be used if they don't affect clarity. Don't think that a simple style is a colourless style. Look at the last paragraph of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address: 'But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate – we cannot consecrate – we cannot hallow – this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us – that from these honoured dead we take increased devotion – that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain – that this nation, under God shall have a new birth of freedom – and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth'."

Published in The Hindu on November 11, 1994

THE DAILY QUIZ

A quiz to mark the 80th birthday of noted Hindi film maker Subhash Ghai

V. V. Ramanan

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

QUESTION 1
Before becoming an actor, Ghai acted in some films. In which superhit flick did he play the role of Flight Lieutenant Prakash?

QUESTION 2
Name the two Shatrughan Sinha starrers, bearing the names of two popular cricketers of that era, that were the first two films of Ghai as a director.

QUESTION 3
Name the production company that he formed in 1982 to produce his films.

QUESTION 4
Which Ghai film had the controversial song '*Choli Ke Peeche Kya Hai*' pictured on Madhuri Dixit?

QUESTION 5
If Jackie Shroff debuted in '*Hero*', which actress made her first appearance in '*Pardes*'?

QUESTION 6
Name the film institute set up by Ghai in 2006.

QUESTION 7
Which film of his received the National Film Award for Best Film on Other Social Issues?

Visual Question:
This is a still from which Ghai film that starred the veteran actors Dilip Kumar and Raaj Kumar. HINDU PHOTO ARCHIVES

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This country grants citizenship only under exceptional circumstances. If one is a cardinal residing in the country, or due to employment within the church, the citizenship is granted. **Ans: Vatican City**
2. Citizenship of the Mercosur is granted to eligible citizens of which bloc? Which are the countries part of the bloc? **Ans: Southern Common Market, comprising Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay**
3. These citizens are the members of this international association of 56 member states. **Ans: Commonwealth of Nations**
4. This form of citizenship exists within a smaller administrative unit, like a state or province, within a nation, granting residents certain rights and participation in local governance, distinct from their national citizenship at the country level. What is this citizenship called? **Ans: Subnational citizenship**
5. Nationality law can be broadly categorised into three principles. **Ans: jus soli, jus sanguinis and jus matrimonii**
Visual: The protest is related to which country? **Ans: Australia**
Early Bird: Manasvi Dhavale

Word of the day

Knavery:
lack of honesty; acts of lying, cheating, or stealing

Synonyms: trickery, mischief, deceit

Usage: *She was punished for her knavery when she stole money from her friend.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/knaverypro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /neɪvəri/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

NATIONAL PENSION SYSTEM TRUST (NPS TRUST)

B-302, Tower-B, 3rd Floor, World Trade Center, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi-110029

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

Date : 24.01.2025

NPS Trust invites applications from eligible Indian citizens for filling up the post of Officer Grade D (Deputy General Manager) on direct recruitment basis as per below mentioned details:

GRADE	STREAM	NUMBER OF POSTS						OUT OF WHICH PwBD
		UR/GEN	OBC	SC	ST	EWS	TOTAL	
Grade D (Deputy General Manager)	IT	1	-	-	-	-	1	-

The comprehensive advertisement containing other details regarding eligibility criteria, mode of selection, submission of application, payment of fees and other instructions including the terms and conditions of appointment to the post is available on the website of NPS Trust at: www.npstrust.org.in.

General Manager

Aeronautical Development Agency

(Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India)
PB No. 1718, Vimanapura Post, Bangalore-560017

Advt Reference No. : ADA:ADV-129:2025 — 10-01-2025

Filling up of Two post(s) in Pay Level-11 on Deputation Basis at ADA

Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) is an Autonomous Body and a Society entrusted with the task of Design and Development of Tejas (LCA), AMCA and other projects of national importance. Applications are hereby invited from eligible officers of Central / State Government / Central Autonomous Bodies / Public Sector Undertakings / Union Territory Administration, for filling up of one post each of **'Senior Admin Officer Gr-I'** and **'Senior Maintenance Officer Gr-I'** on deputation basis at ADA. The details are as mentioned below:

Name of the Post	Pay Level	No. of Post	Initial Term of Deputation	Place of Posting
Senior Admin Officer Gr-I	11	01	3 Years	ADA-LC.Delhi
Senior Maintenance Officer Gr-I (Civil Works & Services)	11	01	3 Years	ADA Hqrs. Bangalore

2. **Eligibility:** Officers of the organizations as mentioned above holding analogous posts on regular basis in the parent cadre/department **OR** WITH three years regular service in the grade rendered after appointment thereto on a regular basis in level-10 (Rs. 56100-177500/-) or above in the pay matrix or equivalent in the parent cadre or department.

3. Interested officers may please visit ADA website **www.ada.gov.in** for eligibility conditions, format of application with enclosures and other details of the notification. Applications in prescribed format completed in all respects with necessary enclosures may be forwarded through proper channel to Director (Admin & HR), Aeronautical Development Agency, Vibhuthipura, Marathahalli Post, Bangalore - 560 037, by Regd./Speed post so as to reach ADA by **10th March 2025.**

Director (Admin & HR), ADA

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients Sri. SRI. NOORULLA. G. N, S/o. Sri. Nisar, & SRI. MOHAMMED JUNAID, S/o. Sri. Riyaz Ahmed, have entered into an agreement of sale dated 06-12-2024 in respect of the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration from its owners, SMT. SHAIK SHARMILI, W/o. Late. Jakeer Shaik, & SRI. SHAIK AADIL AHMAD, S/o. Late. Shaik Jakeer, being Minor, Represented by his mother and Natural Guardian :Smt. Shaik Sharmili, W/o. Late. Shaik Jakeer, Both are Currently Residing at No.253/3/4, 18th Cross, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Bommanahalli, Bangalore – 560068. Permanent Residents at: No.26/2/1031, Vikram Nagar Colony, Wood Complex, Nellore, Andra Pradesh – 524004. AND ALSO At No. 15-247, Gollapalem Street, Venkatagiri – 524 132, SPSR Nellore District, Andra Pradesh.

If any persons, banks, financial institutions etc., having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Residential Property bearing Vacant Site No. 80 measuring East to West : (14.70 + 14.86)/2 Mtrs. and North to South 9.14 Mtrs., in all measuring 135.08 square meters formed in converted land bearing Survey Nos. 55/1 and 55/2, Vide Conversion Order Nos.(1) B.DIS.ALN(AJ) SR 62/2008-09 and 2) B.DIS.ALN(AJ) SR 63/200/-09, dated 10-11-2008, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner (Revenue), Bangalore District, Bangalore and the Lay-Out Plans duly approved and Sites released by Bangalore Development Authority vide their Order No. BDA/TPM/PRL-55/10-11/1986/2011-12, dated15-07-2011 and Memorandum No. BDA/EM/TA-II/T 27/2013-14, dated 08-05-2013 and having BDA Khata bearing No. KAM AA (POO)/80/MAA GOM HAA/2012-13, dated 24-05-2012 and E-Khata bearing No. 150200102900723277 (PID) and having Asset No. 80/80, situated at "Sri Krishna Layout", Maragondanahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, and bounded on : East by : Road, West by : Site No. 71; North by : Site No. 79; South by : Site No. 81

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY,
ROOPA. B, & B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR,
Advocates, # 96, 1st Floor, 1st Main, 4th Cross, Maruthi Nagar, Madiwala, Bangalore-560068, Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832

Bangalore, Date : 23-01-2025

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केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

Syndicate
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office : Bangalore

E-AUCTION Sale of Properties on 15.02.2025

Last date of EMD : 14.02.2025

ARM – I Branch, 2nd Floor, No. 86, Spencers Tower, M.g. Road, Bangalore – 560001. Ph No. : 080 25310066. E-Mail – cb2366@canarabank.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described imovable propeties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM Branch-1,** Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **15.02.2025** at **10:30 AM to 11:00 AM,** through E-Auction under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

For details with regard to E-Auction & digital signature please contact the service provider **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/), Helpdesk Number : 8291220220, Website: https://baanknet.com/**

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **14.02.2025 5.00 pm.**

(Rs. in lacs)

Sl.No.	Name and address of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Description of the immovable assets	Total Dues Possession Type	a. Reserve Price b. EMD c. Incremental Bid	Inspection Date & Time
1.	**1. M/s Sierra Constructions (P) Ltd,** Rep by its managing Director No 187,1st Cross, 1st Main, Lower Palace Orchards Bengaluru – 560003. **2. M/s Tecsol Sierra Engineering & Constructions LLP,** Rep by its Managing Partner, **3. Smt K B Chikkathayamma W/o Late B S Channappa, 4. Sri S C Dhanashankar S/o Late B S Channappa 5. Mrs Kumari Bharathi W/o A C Dhanashakar Above 2,3,4 & 5 Address are at :** No 187,1st Cross, Ist Main, Lower Palace Orchards, Bengaluru – 560003. **6. Sri D Ranganna S/o D Narayanamurthy,** No. 63, 2nd Cross Gavipuram Extension Bengaluru – 560019, **7. Sri Raheja P R S/o Late J L Raheja,** No. 142, Embassy Heritage 8th Main Malleshwaram Bengaluru – 560055. **8. Sri . Sheshachalam A S/o Late A Venkata Rao,** No. 116,2nd Cross HAL III stage Bengaluru. **9. Smt N Shalini W/o Late AC Sudhakar** House No 1564, 29th Cross Banashankari II Stage Bengaluru – 560070. **10. Sri Raghupathi R S/o Late G Ramakrishnan,** No. 106/21"Sai Anugraha" 11th 'B' Cross, 11th Main Road, Malleshwaram Bengaluru 560003. **11. Ms. AS Kanikka D/o Late AC Sudhakar,** House No 1564, 29th Cross Banashankari II Stage Bengaluru – 560070. **12. Sri A S Shreyas S/o Late AC Sudhakar** House No 1564, 29th Cross Banashankari II Stage Bengaluru – 560070. **13 Smt A C Geetha D/o Late B S Channappa W/o M Nagaraju,** No 487, A & B Block peacock Street Mysuru – 570023.**14. Smt S C Sujatha S/o Late B S Channappa W/o AS Nagesh,** No 74, Gurukrua 13th Main Hanumanthanagar Bengaluru – 560050. **15. Smt SC Suneetha D/o Late B S Channappa W/o Dr. C Puttamadappa,** No 19-G1, Sieravillage Near B R Ambedkar Dental College Clive Road Cook Town Bengaluru – 560005. **16. Smt AC Lakshmi D/o Late BS Channappa W/o Dr Jayaprakash** No 1192,18th Main 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru - 560010.	All piece and parcel of the immovable residential flat bearing No G 106/B in B Block in the apartment named 'SIERRA SYLLABLE' situated at Sy No 213/2 CMC No. 149/A, 161, 162/A and 162/B Kodigehalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk in the name of Sierra Constructions having a super built up area of 1222 Sq ft and undivided share of 456 Sq ft with one car parking. **Owner of the property: M Anand** **Coordinates of the property** **Latitude- 13.0644564N** **Longitude- 77.5745634E**	**Rs. 29,47,96,010.97** as on **22.01.2025** plus further interest and cost thereon	a) ₹ 49.54 b) ₹ 4.96 c) ₹ 1.00	**07.02.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM.** with Prior Appointment with The Authorized Officer
		All piece and parcel of the immovable residential flat bearing No S 106/B in B Block in the apartment named 'SIERRA SYLLABLE' situated at Sy No 213/2 CMC No. 149/A, 161, 162/A and 162/B Kodigehalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk in the name of Sierra Constructions having a super built up area of 1222 Sq ft and undivided share of 456 Sq ft with one car parking. **Owner of the property: M Anand** **Coordinates of the property** **Latitude- 13.0644564N** **Longitude- 77.5745634E**		a) ₹ 49.54 b) ₹ 4.96 c) ₹ 1.00	
2.	**1. Smt. B K Prema W/o T Varadaraju** Nallu Village, Hanumanahalli Post, Mulbagal Taluk, Kolar district-563127. **2. Sri Varadaraj T S/o Thimmarayappa** Nallur Village, Hanumanhalli Post, Mulbagal Taluk, Kolar District-563127. **3. Shri Raghu K S/o G Krishanappa** Opp. To Apmc Yard, St. Annes School Main Road, Mulbagal, Kolar District-563131.	Vacant Land Site No.145/4 of Nallur Village, Duggasandra Hobli, Mulabagal Taluk, Kolar District. Total Extent of the land is 1 acre 37 Guntas. **Coordinates of the property** **Latitude- 13.165667** **Longitude- 78.268833**	**Rs. 4,16,98,823.26** as on **22.01.2025** plus further interest and cost thereon	a) ₹ 79.69 b) ₹ 7.97 c) ₹ 1.00	**07.02.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM.** with Prior Appointment with The Authorized Officer
		Vacant Land Site No.44 old Khata No. 9913/1, PID No. 30-9-3K Sy No. 32/1A, Shivakeshavanagar, Sonnavadi Village , Kasaba Hobli, Mulbagal Taluk, Kolar District. Total extent of the land 1200 Sq.ft. **Coordinates of the property** **Latitude- 13.155463** **Longitude- 78.406282**		a) ₹ 8.20 b) ₹ 0.82 c) ₹ 1.00	
		Vacant Land Site No.65 Old Khata No.9913/1 PID No. 30-9-3K Sy.No. 32/1A Shivakeshavanagar, Sonnavadi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mulabagal Taluk, Kolar District. Total extent of the land 1200 Sq.ft. **Coordinates of the property** **Latitude- 13.155571** **Longitude- 78.406607**		a) ₹ 8.20 b) ₹ 0.82 c) ₹ 1.00	
		Vacant Land Site No.19 & 20 Old Khata No.9913/1 PID No. 30-9-3K Sy.No. 32/1A Shivakeshavanagar, Sonnavadi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mulabagal Taluk, Kolar District. Total extent of the land 2400 Sq.ft. **Coordinates of the property** **Latitude- 13.155598** **Longitude- 78.406136**		a) ₹ 16.41 b) ₹ 1.64 c) ₹ 1.00	
		Land and Building Site No.135/1 of Dugasandra Hobli, Mulabagal Taluk, Kolar District. Total Extent of the land 1 acres 37 Guntas and Total Extent of the Plot 1.925 acres. **Coordinates of the property** **Latitude- 13.162750** **Longitude- 78.267083**		a) ₹ 213.71 b) ₹ 21.37 c) ₹ 1.00	

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.08025310066, 9627872626,7483935007,9538406090 and 9598559920 during office hours on any working day.

Place: Bangalore
Date : 23.01.2025

Sd/- Authorized Officer, Canara Bank

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. 02/MYS/2025
Dated: 17-01-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Name of work	Approx. Value
Hassan-Mangaluru	**Rs. 1,42,08,435/-**

Section: Painting of steel girder bridges due for the year 2020-21 & 2022-23 under SSE/Br/Sakleshpur jurisdiction (Including Sakleshpur-Subrahmanya Road ghat section) in Hassan-Mangaluru Jn. section. (Bridges Nos. 293, 296 298, 300, 367, 400, 474, 539 & IOH shed and 15, 23, 133, 142,165, 177, 180, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188,189, 190, 192, 193, 194, 200, 232, 233, 238, 239, 241, 243, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 264, 281, 283, 287, 289, 292, 297, 303, 318, 322, 326, 327, 328, 334, 335, 337, 353, 358, 366 & 578) (Balance Work)

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 10-02-2025**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Engineer /Co-Ordination Mysuru

PUB/722/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of my client **SMT.SHIVA KUMARI W/o Late P.SHIVANNA** to bring to the notice of the general public that the Original Sale deed dt.31.08.2006, Doc. No. 13534/2006-07 of Book I, CD No.YAND225, in the office of the Sub-Registrar Yelahanka, Bangalore in respect of Site No. 314/21, formed out of the layout named as ACHITNAGAR, Situated at **Soladevanahalli Village, Khasaghattapura Village Panchayath Limits, hesaraghatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet, total measuring **1200 Sq.ft.,** has been lost at the time of travelling.

All the persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said Sale deed. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within **7 days** from this present along with that Police Complaint is also given vide **Lost Report No.1443590/2025, dated 23.01.2025.**

Y. Sowmya Yadav, Advocate
Samvruddhi Legal, # 83, Ground Floor, 5th 'A' Cross, 21st Main, J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore-78. **M : 9916343921**

Government of Karnataka

KARNATAKA RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS SOCIETY

(A Government of Karnataka Organisation)
No.8, MSB - 01, 6th & 7th Floor, Cunningham Road, Bangalore-560 052. Tel: 080-22283366, Fax: 080-22262288

No. KREIS/INFR /3/2024-ADMN/E-146859 — **Date: 23.01.2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through E- Tendering Only)

Tenders have been invited on **23.01.2025** Tender No: **KREIS/2024-25/ IND0043**, for Supply of Mosquito Nets to Various Residential Schools functioning under the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society across in Karnataka through e-Portal **http://eprocurement.gov.in.** and the last date for receipt of tenders is **12.02.2025.** The details may be viewed in the above website.

Sd/-
Joint Director(Admin)
and Tender Inviting Authority
KREIS, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/4543/Zen/2024-25

VISVESVARAYA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

"Gnana Sangama", Belagavi - 590018, Karnataka

Ref.No: VTU/BGV/SAP/CW-6/T-688/2024-25/5420 — **Date: 21-01-2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Registrar, VTU, Belagavi invites (Two Cover Systems) e-Tender for the following work through e-Procurement Tendering Mode. **Name of Work: Tender for Supply of General & Housekeeping Materials to Various Sections of VTU, on Annual Rate Contract Basis for a One Year.** Amount Put to Tender: **Rs. 30,00,000/-,** EMD Amount: **Rs. 60,000/-.** Last Date for Receipt of Tender: **05-02-2025 upto 2.30 PM.** Date of Opening of Tender: **06-02-2025 at 4.00 PM.** The details regarding participation in the e-Tendering can be accessed by logging to our VTU Website: **www.vtu.ac.in** and e-Procurement Portal Website: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Registrar
VTU, Belagavi

DIPR/Belagavi/1518/Adverto/2024-25

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಅಭಿಯಾನ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸರ್ವೇಕ್ಷಣಾ ಘಟಕ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.
ಎನ್.ಪಿ.ಸಿ. ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಆವರಣ, ನಜರ್‌ಬಾದ್, ಮೈಸೂರು–570010.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 0821–2971847/2443178
E-Mail Id: dsomysuru@gmail.com/dhomysore@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಎನ್.ಹೆಚ್.ಎಂ/ಡಿ.ಎಸ್.ಯು/15ನೇಹಣಕಾಸು/ಮೈ/155/2024–25
ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20.01.2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಆಯೋಗ, ಸಿಪಿಹೆಚ್‌ಸಿ–ಯುಹೆಚ್‌ಸಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ 396 ಉಪಕೇಂದ್ರ–ಆಯುಷ್ಮಾನ್ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮಂದಿರಗಳಿಗೆ ಮುಕ್ತ ನಿಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಔಷಧಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗಾಗಿ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿರುವ ಔಷಧಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಉಪಭೋಗ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಖರೀದಿಸಲು ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ.

ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಡಿಎಸ್‌ಯು/ಸಿಪಿಹೆಚ್‌ಸಿ–ಯುಹೆಚ್‌ಸಿ/ಮೈ/08/2024–25/15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ದಿ: 18.10.2024 ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊಬಲಗು ರೂ.53,28,000/– ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ರೂ.1,06,560/–

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ: 1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ದಿ: 18.01.2025 **2)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂಅಪ್ ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸುವ ದಿ: 18.01.2025 ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. **3)** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಅಪ್ ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ ದಿ: 03.02.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ **4)** ಪ್ರೀ ಬಿಡ್ ದಿ: 27.01.2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. **5)** ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳ, ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ ದಿ: 05.02.2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಎನ್.ಪಿ.ಸಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ನಜರ್‌ಬಾದ್, ಮೈಸೂರು. **6)** ಹಣಕಾಸಿನ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳ, ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ ದಿ: 12.02.2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.30 ಗಂಟೆ ಅಥವಾ ನಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತುಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಎನ್.ಪಿ.ಸಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ನಜರ್‌ಬಾದ್, ಮೈಸೂರು. **7)** ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 53,28,000/– **8)** ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪಾವತಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (2%) ರೂ. 1,06,560/– **9)** ಭದ್ರತಾಠೇವಣಿ (5%) ರೂ.2,66,400/– **10)** ವ್ಯವಹರಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಳಾಸ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ: ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಸೊಸೈಟಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಎನ್.ಪಿ.ಸಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಆವರಣ, ನಜರ್‌ಬಾದ್, ಮೈಸೂರು–10 ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸರ್ವೇಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು/ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

DIPR/DDMYS/1150/KSMCA/790/2024-25

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No.:CEE/TZM/SEE(O)/AEE-1/2024-25/8159-63 — **Date:17.01.2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through KPP Poratl only)

KPTCL invites bids against below mentioned bid enquiry No. for the following work.

Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/CEE/TZ/MYS/SEE(O)/AEE-1/2024-25/ADDNLTRANS & TL-TB/583 DATE: 16.01.2025** for Providing LILO arrangement to 66kV Terakanambi Substation by stringing of 66kV 2nd Circuit on existing 66kV DC towers of 66kV Terakanambi SC line for a distance of 5.255Kms in Gundlupete Taluk and Chamarajanagara District along with providing 01 No. of 66kV Terminal Bay (TB) at existing 66/11kV Terakanambi Substation in Gundlupete Taluk and Chamarajanagara District on Total Turn Key(TTK) basis.

The tender for the above work is invited through electronic mode. The interested bidders can obtain the application in electronic mode by paying the tender fee. The detailed notification regarding above said enquiry in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyper link "E Procurement KPTCL" OR **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 23.01.2025.** More details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Ele.), Transmission Zone, Ground Floor, Prasarana Bhavana, FTS Compound, N.R. Mohalla, Mysuru - 570 007. Ph: 0821-2455770.

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Unit - 1 : Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04324 - 277001 (10 Lines)
Unit - 2 : Mondipatti - 621 306, Trichy District, Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04332 - 261600.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Scope of Work	Due date
242513 005853	90 GSM Plain Kraft Sheets of various sizes for Unit-I.	06.02.2025
242513 005856	180 GSM Kraft Reels of various sizes for Unit-I & II	06.02.2025
242513 005874	Design, Manufacture, Supply, Packing & Forwarding of Steam Valves with IBR for RSPS#2 Projects at TNPL Unit-I.	14.02.2025
242513 005881	Procurement of Sulphur Di Oxide for Unit-I and Unit-II.	06.02.2025
242523 003588	Procurement of Clay No-1 (Spray Dried) for TNPL Unit-II	07.02.2025
242523 003633	Procurement of 90 GSM Plain Kraft Reels & Sheets of various sizes (BF:24) for TNPL Unit-II.	11.02.2025
Email	242513005853; 5856 - purchase.packing@tnpl.co.in 242513005874 - pmd8@tnpl.co.in 242513005881 - purchase.rawmatl@tnpl.co.in 242523003588 - purchaseimp.u2@tnpl.co.in 242523003633 - purchasepacking.u2@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal only. Detailed requirements, Period, Terms & conditions, Tender fee, EMD, etc., are available in tender document at our websites: **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

DIPR/270/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of Chief Health Officer (Public Health), Ground Floor, Annex-3 Building, BBMP Head Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru- 560 002.

No.:BBMP/2024-25/SE1236 Date:23.01.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)

BBMP invites tenders from eligible tenderers for **"Supply of Group-D's to Namma Clinics on out source basis".**

Tender Reference No.	**BBMP/2024-25/SE1236**
Date of Commencement of downloading RFP documents from KPP portal	**from 23.01.2025 onwards.**
Date, Time & Venue of Pre-bid Meeting:	**27.01.2025 at 12.30 p.m.** at Office of the CHO, Ground Floor, Annex-3 Building, N.R. Square, Bangalore - 560 002.
Last date and time for uploading the tenders in KPP Portal.	**06.02.2025 upto 5.00 p.m.**
Date of Opening of technical bids in KPP Portal.	**07.02.2025 at 5.10 p.m.**

Further details can be obtained from the KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Health Officer (Public Health).

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ

ನವನಗರ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ – 580 025

ಸಂ. ಹು.ಧಾ.ನ.ಪ್ರಾ/ಆವಿ/ಟೆ.ನೋ.ನಂ.05/ CALL-2/2024-25/4639 ದಿನಾಂಕ:23–01–2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999–2000 ರ ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ KW-4 ರನ್ವಯ a) (INDENT7/CALL-2). b) (INDENT9/CALL-2). ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಲೈಸನ್ಸ್ ಹೊಂದಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ (www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in) ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರನಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಮಯದೊಳಗಾಗಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು.

(1) ಟೆಂಡರ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರದ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೊರ್ಟಲನಲ್ಲಿ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23–01–2025ರ** ನಂತರ ನೋಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. **(2)** ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07–02–2025** ರಂದು ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 16.00 ಘಂಟೆ **3)** ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10–02–2025** ರಂದು ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 16.00 ಘಂಟೆ. **(4)** ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13–02–2025** ರಂದು ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 16.00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ, ಆಗದಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಗೊತ್ತುಪಡಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು, ಎಲ್ಲ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾದರಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ದಾಖಲೆ KW-4 ದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವರಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಅಭ್ಯಸಿಸಿ ಅರ್ಥೈಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಇಚ್ಚಿಸಿದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. **ಸಹಿ/– ಆಯುಕ್ತರು**

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಇ/ಧಾ/886/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ/2024–25

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION

Central Offices: Purchase Department, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560 027,
Website: www.bmtc.in e-mail:cosp@mybmtc.com

No. BMTC/COSP/STR/SDS/625/2024-25 Date: 23.01.2025

"e"-Auction Notice

Scrap Vehicles available at BMTC will be sold through e-Auction to be conducted by **M/s. M.S.T.C. (A Govt. of India undertaking)**. The e-Auction schedule is as under: **(1) Scrapped Vehicles with RVSF-ELV Date of e-Auction: 05.02.2025 and 06.02.2025.** The interested bidders may log on to **www.mstcecommerce.com** for further details and registration. They may also contact M/s. M.S.T.C Ltd., at below mentioned address for needful clarification. **Address:** M/s. M.S.T.C. LTD., No.19/5, 19/6, 3rd Floor, Kareem Tower, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru- 560 052. Contact phone Nos: 080- 22260054, 22266417, 22287356, FAX No. 080-22256365 BMTC Contact phone Nos: + 91 7760991988 / 7760991157.

Sd/-CONTROLLER OF STORES & PURCHASES

The Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation Limited

APMDC
Door No. 294/1D, 100 feet Road (Tadigadapa to Enikepadu Road), Kanuru, Vijayawada – 521137, Andhra Pradesh, India, Tel: +91-866-2429999
Fax: +91-866-2429977, Email: contracts-ho@apmdc.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No: APMDC/Pro&Con /Bulk Sale of C+D+W grade Barytes/2024-2025- 1, Date: 24.1.2025

APMDC invites E-tenders from reputed Agencies for "e-tender cum e-auction for bulk sale of 60 lakh mts of c+d+w grade barytes (<4.10 specific gravity) on ex-mangampet mine/stockyard basis". For more information on the eligibility criteria, tender fees, timelines and other details, please visit MSTC website **www.mstcecommerce.com** from **24.1.2025** onwards. The Tender document is available for downloading and the last date for bid submission is **6.02.2025 by 17:00 Hrs.**

Place : Vijayawada **Sd/- Managing Director**
Date : 23rd January 2025 **The A.P. Mineral Development Corporation Limited**

KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD

'JAL BHAVAN', No. 6, 1st Stage, 1st Phase, BTM Layout, Bannerghatta Main Road, Bengaluru-560029.
Ph: 080-41106508
email: cekwbbng@gmail.com Website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPPP only)

(1) No.KWB/TEC/CE(B)/HBBGD/NAGAROTHANA-3/1049/2024-25, Dt: 22.01.2025. (Short Term)

Name of the work : "Improvements of Water Supply to Hebbagodi city under general grants of Nagarothana (Municipality-3) (LUMPSUM-NO VARIATION)". **Indent No. : KUWSDB/2024-25/WS/ WORK_INDENT/295.**

(2) No.KWB/TEC/CE(B)/ Chintamani DC works/1054/2024-25 Dtd: 23.01.2025.

Name of the work : "Removing and replacement of existing UGD network and Providing and laying of new sewer network along with HSC at KGN layout, RK layout, Rajappa Layout, Tapateswara colony, Malapalli and kolar road outfall connected to Gopasandra outfall, desilting & repair works in Chintamani city under D.C works of CMC, Chintamani (LUMPSUM-NO VARIATION)" **Indent No. : KUWSDB/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT297**

For further details may be obtained through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER (B), KUWS & D BOARD, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/YC/4532/2024-25

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, NOORINNISA W/O Shabbir Ahmed Born on 01/01/1983 residing at NO 35/81 Sotepeer Masjid Rena Galli Basavakalyan Bidar have changed my name to Noorunnisa vide affidavit dated 23/01/2025 at Basavakalyan

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, TARANDEEP Kaur spouse of Maninder Singh Saluja resident of Gurudwara Sadh Sangat Jalahalli East qtrs, Jalahalli East, Bengaluru 560014 have changed my Name from Tarandeep Kaur to Tarndeep Kaur vide Affidavit dated 23-01-2025 at Bengaluru Metropolitan Area

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Email ID: training@idemi.org Website : . Idemi.org Ph.:[022] 2405 0301/2/3/4

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केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 Branch,
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower,
M.G. Road Bengaluru-560001
Ph:080-25310066, E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISO TO RULE 8 (6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **14.02.2025 (10.30 AM to 11.00 AM),** for recovery of **Rs.28913669.05 as on 20.01.2025** with further interest and cost thereon due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from (1) M/s Nature Home Care Products, (2) Sri. G K Ramachandra** S/o Late Krishanppa, **Both are residing at:** No. #43, 1st Main Valagerhalli, Kengeri, Near Chithrakoota School, Bangalore-560056. **Current address: Sri. G K Ramachandra,** No.#06, 1st Main, 9th Cross, MTS Layout, K S Town Opp: Bethesda High, Bangalore-560050.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through **RTGS/NEFT** in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **13.02.2025, 5.00 pm.** **(₹. in Lakhs)**

Lot No	Description of the immovable/movable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental value at Bid
1	Property bearing site No. 8/4A, assessment No. 24/1 Valagerahalli Village Katha No. 49, measuring East to West 80 feet and North to south 60 feet, Totally measuring 1800 Sq.ft, Situated at Kengri, Kengri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Presently comes under the limits of BBMP, Bengaluru. East: Private Property, West: Private Property, North: Road, South: Private Property. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 12.9331210, Longitude- 77.4950220.**	₹.185.00	₹.18.50	₹.1.00

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in **Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.08025310066, 9627872626,7483935007,9538406090 and 9598559920** during office hours on any working day.

Date : 22.01.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Bangalore **Canara Bank**

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 Branch
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower,
M.G. Road, Bengaluru-560001.
E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank**, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **28.02.2025 (11.00 AM to 11.30 AM),** for recovery of **Rs.153297897.74** with further interest and cost thereon due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank** from **(1) M/s Lakshminarayanaswamy M Sand,** Office At: Door No.130/4,80 Feet Road, KHB Colony, Basaveshwara Nagar, Bangalore-560079. **(2) Mr. Lakshmanappa M R** S/o Ramiah, Residing at 130/4, 80 Feet Road, KHB Colony, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore-560079. **Also at:** Mr. Lakshmanappa M R, Resding at:138, Srinikethan, 7th Main, Mens Railway Layout,Bhavani Nagar, Ullal, Bangalore South-560056. **(3) Mrs. Parvathamma** W/o Lakshmanappa M R, Resding at: 130/4, 80 Feet Road,KHB Colony, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore-560079. **Also at:** Mrs. Parvathamma, Resding at:138, Srinikethan, 7th Main, Mens Railway Layout, Bhavani Nagar, Ullal, Bangalore South-560056. **Also at:** Mrs. Parvathamma, #403, Visweswaraya Layout, 6th Block, Near K L E Law College, Bangalore-560091.

The Earnest Money shall be deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan **on or before 27.02.2025, 5.00 pm.** **(₹.In Lakhs)**

Lot	Description of the movable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1	2 Streams of 300 TPH skid mounted sand crushing plat with stockpile 5000T and dry classification unit. At Sy.No 43/P1. Khahta No 167 and 168, Dananyakanapura Village, Byatha Village, Oodigere Hobli, Tumkur District-572104. **Coordinates of the property: Latitude- 13.290047, Longitude- 77.222282.**	797.50	79.75	1.00
2	Volvo Hitachi Excavators.	311.85	31.19	1.00
3	304 KW/380 KVA Silent diesel Generating set with CPCB-II approved acoustic encloser comprising of Cumins Model QSN-14-G, radiator cooled diesel engine deceloping 487 BHP, at 1500 RPM, with PCC 3.3 controller complete with standard accessories, coupled to Stamford alternator rated at 304KW/380KVA at 415 volts, mounted on channel iron base frame, complete with fuel tank & maintenance free fully charged Cummins Pulselite batteries without panel.	21.45	2.14	1.00
4	600KW/750KVA Silent diesel Generating set with CPCB-II approved acoustic encloser comprising of Cumins Model KTA-38-G13, radiator cooled diesel engine deceloping 987 BHP, at 1500 RPM, complete with standard accessories, coupled to Stamford alternator rated at 600KW/750KVA at 415 volts, three phase mounted on channel iron base frame, complete with fuel tank oh 990 litres capacity & maintenance free fully charged Cummins Pulselite batteries without panel.	46.75	4.68	1.00
5	1200KW/1500KVA Silent diesel Generating set with acoustic encloser comprising of Cumins Model KTA-50-G8-1, radiator cooled diesel engine deceloping 1735 BHP, at 1500 RPM, complete with standard accessories, coupled to Stamford alternator rated at 1200KW/1500KVA at 415 volts, three phase mounted on channel iron base frame, complete with fuel tank oh 990 litres capacity & maintenance free fully charged Cummins Pulselite batteries without panel.	94.00	9.40	1.00
6	CLA 25.220 (6*4) (VE) fully built tipper with 16 CUM std box engine 0836LFL 220 HP gear box 95 1110, rear axel AP-H9-13120 with interaxel & diff lock. Rear suspension boggle, wheel base 4525 tyre 11.008 20-16 PR with ETT front steel bumper, day cabin, ABS, BS-111.	123.20	12.32	1.00
7	ACE Hydraulic mobile crane model ACE F-160 4 part slotted boom with 18.1 MTRRS height with SLI, rear view camera, 4 wheel drive with front outriggers (2 Nos.) fly jib & dragging winch, high low selector (16 ton capacity, Ashok Leyland Engine).	10.55	1.06	1.00
8	CLC 31.30 (8*4) fully built tipper with 18 cum box body, Bharat stage-IV with 12 wheeler.	112.20	11.22	1.00
9	CLC 31.30 (6*4) fully built tipper with 16 cum box body, Bharat stage-IV with 10 wheeler.	102.30	10.24	1.00
	TOTAL	1619.80		

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website **(www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal** and may contact **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.08025310066, 9627872626,7483935007,9538406090 and 9598559920** during office hours on any working day.

Date : 23.01.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Bengaluru **Canara Bank**

TAMIL NADU CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION

Head Office, POONAMALEE HIGH ROAD, Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) Admin Building, Koyambedu, Chennai - 600107.
Ph.No. (044) 26426773, Email id.: tncsc.tn@nic.in CIN:U15137TN1972SGC006157

Com1 / 001173 / 2025 Dated: 23.01.2025

SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE

Short e-Tender No. : COM1/001173/2025 - TNCSC/24-25

Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation invites online short electronic tender **for "PURCHASE OF 45,000 MTs. of S-30 grade SUGAR for the month of March 2025 and April 2025 [Season 2024-25]".**

Complete short e-Tender document can be viewed and downloaded from **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

The bidders have to participate online bidding only with Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of Class-II or Class-III.

Last Date and time for Online Submission : 08.02.2025 upto 11.00 A.M.

DIPR/267/Tender/2025 **MANAGING DIRECTOR.**

Govt of Karnataka

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION KALABURAGI

No: EE/PWD/KD/TS-2/Tender Notification/2024-25/ 6060 Date: 22.01.2025

:: SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION ::

1) Name of Work: Executive Engineer PWD Division Invites tender for the (19) Works under KKRDB. for indent No GEN (15) 17850, 17447, 17858,18213, 17910, 17909, 17893, 17697, 17853, 18073, 17676, 17911, 17710.17937.17936.(SC Categorry 17859,) (Cat-II(A) 11247) (Cat-I 17893) (ST Categorry 18215), 2) Estimate cost: **Min Rs. 3.22 Lakhs Max Rs.192.00 Lakhs,** 3) Eligibility of Contractor : Class IV, III,II, I. & above, 4) EMD Amount : Rs. 8050.00 Rs. 240000.00, 5) Pre-Bid Meeting: **31.01.2025 (11.00 Hrs)**, 6) Last date for quries : **01.02.2025 (17.30 Hrs)**, 7) Last date for Submission of Bid: **03.02.2025 (16.00 Hrs)** 9) Date of Opening of Technical Bid : **04.02.2025 (16.30 Hrs),** 10) Date of opening of Financial Bid (for Two Cover) : **05.02.2025 (16.30 Hrs),** 11) Enquriries: Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi, 12) Note: GST Will be Paid Separately, 13) Website: WWW.e-proc.Karnatak.gov.in, 14) Bidders Should Note That: Note: 1) Undersigned reseres the right to Cancel / Postpone/ Reject any or all the tenders at any point of time during tender process without assigning any reason. 2) Changes in the tender process will not be Published in the News Papers Bidders may get Details of Changes In KPPP Portal Only.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/871/KSMC&A/2024-25

Sd/- Executive Engineer
PWD Division Kalaburagi

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

DRM/Electrical,North Western Railway, Jodhpur for & on behalf of the president of India, invites E-tender for the following work. **1. Complete details of tenders can be seen on Website No : http://www.ireps.gov.in 2. Date & time of closing of e-tender: 12.02.2025** up to 15.00 hrs. **3. Date & time of opening of e-tender:** After 15.00 hrs. on **12.02.2025 Tender Notice No.** : 47/2024-25 **Name of work:** Provision of hiring of AC for Railway Hospital JU, Officer Rest House JU, Running room JU, DRM office JU and other important locations of JU division for a period of 05 years. **Approx. Cost of the work (Rs.)** : 1,28,61,662.00 **Tender Notice No.** : 48/2024-25 **Name of work:** Repair & maintenance of electrical assets of service buildings, quarters & other nearby installation under Jodhpur division for a period of Two years. **Approx. Cost of the work (Rs.)** : 3,79,34,187.67 For detailed information visit **http://www.ireps.gov.in**

88-DR/25

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Publication of E-Tender Notice No. CAO/CN/BNC/49/2025 Dated: 16-01-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

SL	Item of work	Approx. Value
1	Construction of Road Over Bridge with subway in lieu of Level Crossing No.86 as 1x30m composite girder with 8x18m PSC girder towards Hassan side and 8x18m PSC girder towards NH side at Railway Km.142/700-800 between Tiptur and Honnavalli Road stations in Tumakuru- Arsikere Section. (Composite work). **(Tender Ref. No.: ASK-TK-ROB-LC-86)**	Rs. 39,41,87,732/-
2	Construction of 2 Lane ROB in lieu of LC no.38 at KM 65/300-400 with 1x42m Bowstring girder (Railway portion) + 08x18.71m PSC Girder towards NH-73 Baddihalli side and 5x18.71m PSC Girder towards NH-43 side and Retaining wall on both sides of ROB merging lengths between Kyathasandra and Tumakuru Stations including electrical works (COMPOSITE WORK). **(Tender Ref. No.: ROB-LC38-KIAT-TK)**	Rs. 25,45,18,275/-

Date of closing of Tender is : **Upto 15:00 hrs on 11-02-2025**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/Works Bengaluru Cantonment

PUB/720/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients Sri. MOHAMMED IMRAN, S/o. Sri. Mohammed Ashraf and SRI. NOORULLA G N, S/o. Sri. Nisar, have entered into an agreement of sale dated 06-12-2024 in respect of the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration from its owner, SRI. MOHAMMED RAFIQ, S/o. Sri. Mohabeeb Basha, Residing at No. 2, 2nd Floor, 4th Cross, Near Noor Masjid, Muneshwara Nagar, Old Mangammanapalya, Bangalore-560 068.

If any persons, banks, financial institutions etc., having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Residential property bearing Vacant Site No. 7,formed in Sy. No. 146/3, Old Khata No. 146, PID No. 146/146/3, situated at Present BBMP Ward No. 192-Begur, Subash Nagar, (M.M. Layout), Begur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore south Taluk, measuring East to West: 40 Feet and North to South : 25 Feet. in total measuring 1000 Sq. Ft and bounded as follows: East by : Road, West by : Private Property; North by : Private Property; South by : Site No.6.

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY,
ROOPA. B, & B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR,
Advocates, # 96, 1st Floor, 1st Main, 4th Cross, Maruthi Nagar, Madiwala, Bangalore-560068, Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832

Bangalore, Date : 23-01-2025

THE HINDU GROUP

ACES SPORTS QUIZ

1. Who became the first Indian to win an Olympic medal in the men's 50m rifle 3 positions event when he won a bronze at the 2024 Paris Olympics?
2. Which country did India beat to clinch their second consecutive men's hockey bronze medal at Paris 2024?
3. How many medals did India win at the Paris Paralympics 2024?

Scan the QR code or visit **sstar.news/SSAA2025AQ** to take part in the quiz and vote for your favourite stars. Top 3 winners every day will win exciting gift vouchers*.

*T&C apply.

Answer to yesterday's quiz:
1. 2022
2. South Korea
3. Smriti Mandhana

Yesterday's Winners:
1. Rajeev Singh, Noida
2. V. Chandramouli, Chennai
3. Laveti Ramu, Nimmada

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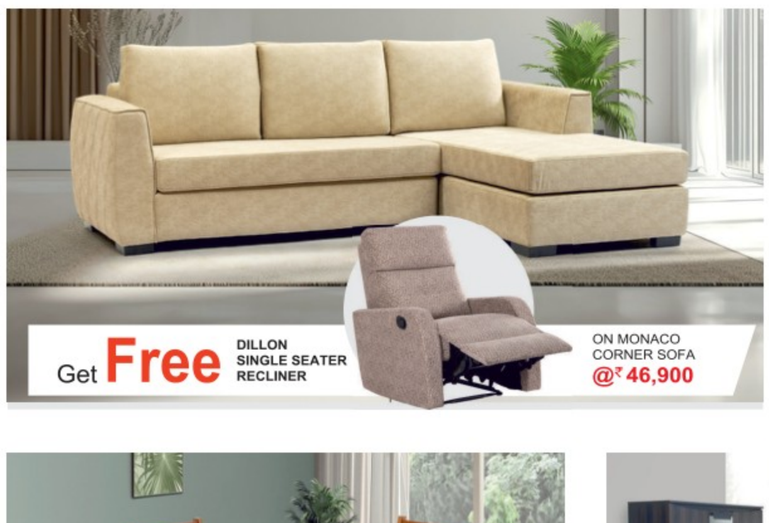

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The remains: A file photo of authorities retrieving bodies of victims at the site where a lorry carrying explosives, including gelatin sticks and detonators, blew up at Hunasodu stone quarry area in Shivamogga taluk on the night of January 21, 2021. The cause of the accident is not clear as all those at the spot died or were declared 'missing'.

Four years on, Shivamogga quarry blast case probe is back to square one

A lorry carrying explosives and those in and around it were blown to smithereens at a stone-crushing unit near Hunasodu on the outskirts of Shivamogga on January 21, 2021. Five of the dead were identified and three were declared 'missing'. Four years later, there is no closure for either the families of the victims or the case. The High Court of Karnataka has quashed the chargesheet on the ground that the authority entrusted to investigate the case had no jurisdiction over it. **Sathish G.T.** revisits the grieving families and the case.

Chikka Bore Gowda, a resident of Kengal Hanumanthaiya Nagar near Bhadravati in Shivamogga district, calls his son C. Devendra's mobile phone every now and then only to hear a pre-recorded message saying that the call could not be connected. Gowda last saw his son four years ago.

Sixty-year-old Gowda, a farmer, lost his ailing wife, Susheela, eight years back. He lived with his son and his family. The blast at a stone-crushing unit at Hunasodu near Shivamogga on January 21, 2021, left them devastated. The police who investigated the case concluded that six people died in the incident, though they identified five among the victims initially. Three people, including Devendra who was at the site that fateful night, were declared "missing".

"If we knew for certain that he died in that blast, we would have reconciled to the loss over time. But now, we are dying every day thinking of him. We don't know what happened to him for certain," says a tearful Gowda. Though the police later said the DNA test proved the sixth body to be that of Devendra's, Gowda refuses to believe it and continues to harbour suspicion.

> If we knew for certain that he died in that blast, we would have reconciled to the loss over time. But now, we are dying every day thinking of him. We don't know what happened to him for certain.
>
> **CHIKKA BORE GOWDA,** father of C. Devendra

Devendra alias Shashi had a daughter and his wife, Shobha, was pregnant with the second child when he went "missing" following the blast. "After he did II PU [pre-university course], I insisted that he stay at home looking after cows and agriculture in the village instead of going out for any job. After I lost my wife, I wanted my son to remain with me," says Gowda. The father got an autorickshaw for Devendra, who occasionally worked for Praveen, who used to procure explosives for stone-crushing units. According to Gowda, Devendra would collect money from those running the stone-crushing units and hand it over to Praveen. He had maintained a notebook of payments.

The blast that shook all

It was around 10.20 p.m. on January 21, 2021, that a lorry carrying explosives, including gelatin sticks and detonators, blew up at the Hunasodu stone quarry. The cause of the accident is not clear as all those at the spot died or went 'missing'. It is said that the lorry came in contact with a transformer, leading to a spark. There were no safety measures in place. The blast was so intense that residents of Shivamogga city – about 4 km away – and several villages in Bhadravati taluk and also those in the neighbouring Davangere and Chikkamagaluru districts heard the sound and thought it was an earthquake.

The impact of the blast was so huge that many houses in the villages of Hunasodu and Kalluganguru suffered damage. Many borewells around the quarry area were rendered defunct and hundreds of electronic gadgets went out of order. People living near Hunasodu – who reached the spot after seeing flames and thick waves of dust engulfing the locality – found parts of both the lorry and bodies of people scattered across a large area. The police eventually cordoned off the area and called in experts to understand what actually had happened.

The spot today: Eshwar Naik, a farmer from Kalluganguru whose house is located close to the blast site, suffered huge losses following the incident. SATHISH G.T.

How the case progressed

The next day, on January 22, 2021, the Shivamogga Rural police registered a case under the Explosives Act, the Explosive Substances Act, and sections of the Indian Penal Code that dealt with negligence in handling explosives and culpable homicide, not amounting to murder. The police concluded that six people died in the incident, and they identified five among them. They were Mopuri Pavan, 29; Chamma Javeed, 28; Chelimanu Raju, 24; Manjunath, 35, and Praveen, 36. Three others – Devendra, Punith, and R. Nagaraj – were declared "missing".

Praveen, according to the police, often supplied explosives to stone crushers. He had contacts in Andhra Pradesh from where he procured the explosives. Devendra, Manjunath of Antaragange, Punith of Basavanagudi and Nagaraj of Gowrapura, – all residents of neighbouring villages in Bhadravati taluk – worked as Praveen's drivers and helpers whenever needed. On that fateful day, Praveen took all of them to deliver the goods. While Praveen and Manjunath were found dead, the remaining three were declared "missing".

C. Devendra

R. Nagaraj

Punith

Vinay Kumar, son of Nagaraj, a fisherman, says he and his father were fishing at Gowrapura tank on the day when his father got a call from Praveen. "He gave me ₹20 and left with Praveen. That was the last I saw him," says Vinay Kumar, 24. Nagaraj's wife, Shanthamma, and their two sons – Vishwanath and Vinay Kumar – are all daily wage workers.

Rajamma, 55, of Basavanagudi, lost her son Punith that day. She lost her husband 30 years ago. "My two daughters are married. My only son is now missing. I have been working in agricultural fields in my village," she says. Punith had purchased a luggage carrier. She had kept the vehicle till recently hoping that her son would return one day and use it. She says mournfully that she sold the vehicle for a few thousand rupees to meet her daily expenses.

The experts who examined the parts of human bodies at the blast site concluded that they belonged to six people. With the help of identity cards, clothes, and other identification marks, they identified five people. The identity of the sixth person remained elusive. Three others, Punith, Nagaraj, and Devendra, were deemed "missing" from the spot at that point.

Later, through the court's approval, the police collected blood samples of family members of those who were "missing". The samples were sent to the Forensic Science Laboratory in Bengaluru and the Department of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology at the Shivamogga Institute of Medical Sciences in Shivamogga. The experts noted that the sample of an unidentified body matched with the sample collected from Pranathi D., daughter of Devendra.

Gowda, however, says, "The police all of a sudden informed the media that there was a DNA match, leaving us in shock. But, when I sought the reports of the laboratory, they did not oblige. Without verifying the documents, how can I believe their statement."

Gowda has doubts over the police version for various reasons. He says the supplementary chargesheet referred to the call details of the phone numbers his son possessed. "I am surprised at the mention of over 300 calls on my son's phone on that day – January 21, 2021. I was with him for half of the day. He hardly received any calls when he was with me. However, the records furnished by the police show that he got calls without a break. It is impossible. I don't believe the police claim that he died in the blast."

Gowda and the family members of Nagaraj and Punith, who are also missing, have filed a writ petition in the Karnataka High Court seeking an inquiry into the case by the Central Bureau of Investigation. They believe the three did not die in the blast but could have become pawns in the hands of influential people, allegedly involved in the case.

While the three families have no closure at a personal level, the fate of the case and investigation is quite literally back to square one.

Though the Shivamogga Rural Police registered the case following the blast, soon after, the case was handed over to the Shivamogga Cyber Crime, Economic Offences and Narcotics (CEN) Police for investigation. The then IGP of Eastern Range S. Ravi ordered the transfer of the case to the CEN police. K.T. Gururaj, police inspector, conducted the investigation and filed the chargesheet in April 2021 and later a supplementary chargesheet.

The police named Sreeramulu, Manjunath Sai, P. Pruthviraja Sai, K. Vijaya Kumara, Mopuri Pavan, Chamma Javeed, Chelimanu Raju, Praveen Kumar, Manjunatha, B.V. Sudhakar, S.T. Kulkarni, Avinash Kulkarni, Mumtaz Ahmad, Rashid, Narasimha, and Devendra as accused. Among them, Pavan, Javeed, Raju, Praveen Kumar, Manjunath, and Devendra are dead. Sreeramulu is the lorry owner, and Manjunath Sai, Pruthviraja, and Vijaya Kumara from Andhra Pradesh were accused of supplying explosives through Praveen without obtaining mandatory licence.

Sudhakar, a resident of Shivamogga, is the owner of BVS Stone Crusher, where the incident happened. S.T. Kulkarni and Avinash Kulkarni are the owners of the land, which they had given on rent for the unit. Mumtaz Ahmad was the writer at the crusher unit, Rashid, a worker, and Narasimha was the supervisor.

The decision to transfer the probe to the CEN police, however, has eventually proved to be detrimental to the case, bringing the entire investigation back to square one.

The accused challenged the chargesheet in the High Court. The court, on September 20, 2023, quashed the proceedings citing that the CEN police had no jurisdiction in the first place to investigate the offences punishable under the provisions of the Explosives Substances Act. As a result, the proceedings of the case at the 3rd Additional District and Sessions Court in Shivamogga were also stopped. The court, on December 18, 2024, declared that the case was disposed of.

However, the High Court, in its order stated that the Shivamogga Rural police had the liberty to conduct the investigation and submit the final report. When *The Hindu* contacted Shivamogga Superintendent of Police G.K. Mithun Kumar, he said the case would be re-investigated and a fresh chargesheet filed. Regarding the "missing" persons case, he said the probe is continuing.

No relief to affected residents

Meanwhile, the residents of Hunasodu, Kalluganguru, Hanumanthapura, and neighbouring villages, whose houses were damaged during the blast, have repeatedly demanded relief from the government. They have staged protests outside the Deputy Commissioner's office multiple times. Their demand, however, has remained unfulfilled. Eshwar Naik, a farmer at Kalluganguru whose house is located close to the blast site, suffered huge losses following the incident. "We were the worst hit. The roof sheets, window-panes, irrigation pumpset, and electronic gadgets were damaged. We spent more than ₹50,000 for repairs. However, the government did not pay any relief," he says.

Since the incident, there has been no activity at the stone-crushing site, but that hardly brings any relief to families devastated by the blast.

From aerospace to acting

After years of working as a scientist and engineer, Rekha Kudligi began pursuing acting and her performances in Kannada films have garnered high praise

Vivek MV
vivek.mv@thehindu.co.in

At a major turning point in her life, after more than two decades of experience with systems, software, and solutions, Rekha Kudligi decided to explore an unfamiliar world. She felt it was the right time to make the big jump. Though an engineer and scientist by choice, throughout her career, acting was a dream for Rekha.

After long stints at Electronic Research and Development organisation and Honeywell Aerospace in Bengaluru, Rekha took the right steps to become an actor. In 2014, when she moved to Germany, Rekha pursued theatre and completed filmmaking courses, and made short films to bring herself closer to her big break.

She owes her growth as an actor to her mother Indumathi Ramamurthy, who introduced her to theatre with the Bengaluru-based theatre group MISFIT. Rekha fine tuned her craft under the guidance of founder and theatre coach Ratan Takore Grant.

It was through MISFIT she received her first audition call for Danish Sait's satirical series *Humble Politician Nograj* (2022). Rekha jumped at the opportunity.

"I had to enact a scene where my character breaks down after my husband's death. The person who conducted my audition said he was so impressed by my performance that he had tears in his eyes. I was selected, and it all started from there," she says.

Rekha thanks her family, including her husband Ravindra Bachalli, son Varun Bachalli and father Dr Ramamurthy Kudligi, for standing by her when she ventured into full fledged acting.

"Late bloomers such as me need at least 10 years to get established. I had to choose this career at the earliest, and my family backed me to the hilt," she says.

After featuring in an advertisement directed by Nithin Krishnamurthy (*Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare* fame), Rekha's first prominent role arrived in *Sakutumba Sametha*, a heartwarming relationship drama produced by Rakshit Shetty and directed by debutant Rahul P K, and co-written by Pooja Sudhir.

Late bloomer Rekha Kudligi, stills from her movies. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Rekha plays a middle class mother, juggling her catering business and a vigourless relationship with her husband due to lack of communication. It is an affecting performance, as she makes you feel her plight as a mother who runs the house and a wife missing an emotional connection with her husband.

Compliments for her performance in the film assured Rekha that she belonged in cinema. "After a screening in Mysuru, a couple confessed to me that my story and performance were relatable. In their case, the husband worked in a different city, and they hardly stayed together for long periods. That affected the communication between them," she recollects.

Prithvi Konanur's festival hit and critically acclaimed *Hadinelentu* presented Rekha with a tricky role that she aced convincingly. In the film, two teenagers stare at a worrying future after their sex tape gets leaked. Rekha, as the college teacher of the two, aces a character marked with shades of grey.

She initially condemns the girl and argues for her dismissal from the university. Gradually, she begins to feel sympathetic for the girl, perhaps aware of the discrimination and injustice faced by her due to the societal imbalance of power and money.

"Initially, she is a strict teacher who believes in conservative values. However, towards the end, when she realises that the girl's life is on the line for no fault, the teacher becomes compassionate. I loved playing this intense character." As we witness high tension in the last act, Rekha carries her role with an innate subtlety that is hard not to admire.

Family Drama, a dark comedy, was a refreshing change for Rekha. Playing a middle-class mother aiming to eliminate a don for money, she delivers a hilarious performance without going overboard.

"You shouldn't stress too much about whether people will laugh. An actor's job is to believe in the eccentricity of the character and surrender to it," she says.

In the Raj B Shetty-directorial *Swathi Mutthina Male Haniye*, Rekha stands out as an understanding mother despite having a minor role. Her emotional conversation with Siri, who plays her daughter, is one of the stronger scenes in the film. Rekha exhibits the right amount of poise needed for the character.

"I don't worry about the size of the role. The credit goes to Raj for writing such a sensitive story. My scene with Siri is the turning point of the movie. She is in a loveless marriage and talks to her mother about being in love with another man. She wants her mother's assurance about her feelings. It's a deeply moving scene that resonated with people," she offers.

> ***I need to take my chances, mainly because I like being on the sets and learning new things. I am eager to be versatile.***
>
> **REKHA KUDLIGI**
> Actor

She considers her role in Vidya Balan's *Do Aur Do Pyaar* one of the biggest opportunities in her career so far. "I still pinch myself at times to believe it wasn't a dream," says Rekha, who plays Vidya Balan's mother in the movie.

"We had reading and rehearsal sessions. My co-stars, Vidya Balan, Pratik Gandhi, and Thalaivasal Vijay, never made me feel like a beginner. Also, Pratik and I had a lot of things to share because he is also an engineer who pursued theatre before entering films. Vidya Balan was curious about my journey. She is such a progressive person!"

A subtle actor with a knack for displaying the life of her characters, Rekha hopes to play different roles in the future. She admits that being a late bloomer doesn't allow her to reject roles.

"I need to take my chances, mainly because I like being on the sets and learning new things. That said, I have been mostly getting the roles of a mother or a grandmother, perhaps due to my age. I would want to play a lawyer, a cop, or a beggar. I am eager to be versatile," she says.

Reinventing a classic

From jaggery millet, and roasted almond to mango, this store in Mysuru offers 11 varieties of Mysore pak

Prachi Rathi

Many of us are familiar with the story of the royal cook, Kakasura Madappa, who curated the recipe of Mysore pak for King Krishna Raja Wadiyar IV in the 19th century, by blending together the simplest ingredients: gram flour, ghee, and sugar. Now in the dessert's birthplace of Mysuru, a new store is reimagining this timeless sweet.

The World of Mysore Pak situated on Chamundi Hills Road is an experiential store devoted to Mysore pak. They offer 11 varieties here: roasted almond, carrot, cashew, mango, figs, milk, millet, jaggery millet, jaggery, traditional and special Mysore pak. I sample all 11 varieties and am particularly impressed with roasted almond, mango, milk and the special Mysore pak. The sweets deliver a delicate balance, with the added flavours enhancing the experience but with the essence of the original flavours still intact.

Melting moments Machine sliced Mysore Pak. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

How it all began

The store was started by three friends, who are now partners. Sowmya H S, who has an an IT background says "The project started two years ago with countless trials to perfect the recipe."

Shruti Pavan Shroff adds, "There are many sweet shops offering Mysore pak, but none solely dedicated to this sweet. Our goal is to give customers an immersive experience – they can watch the sweet being made, taste samples, and share their feedback." Sowmya continues, "We were selective about the store location, since Mysore pak has long been a favourite souvenir of the city,"

As I walk past the counter, my attention is drawn to a variety of unique sweets featuring Mysore pak, like the paka sandwich and Mysore peda. "The paka sandwich is a layer of *kaju barfi* sandwiched between Mysore pak," explains Nikhil Mannar, the third partner. "The Mysore peda draws inspiration from the famous Dharwad peda."

Among the most popular offerings are the jaggery millet and jaggery Mysore pak, crafted for health-conscious customers. Nikhil is also excited about a Mysore pak and ice cream combination that they are planning to roll out.

Technology meets tradition

Visitors can watch the making of Mysore pak through a glass partition. Four machines are installed; two for mixing and blending, while the other two are for cutting and packaging. "All our machines are customised to suit our needs," says Nikhil. "The Mysore pak cutting machine, which slices the sweet into perfect portions, is truly one of a kind. It took almost six months of research and development to create."

Mysore pak starts at ₹150 for 250gms onwards. At JC layout, Mysuru. For more details contact 6364895254, visit worldofmysorepak.com

The Legato School of Music brings the opera *Dido and Aeneas* to the city this weekend

Classic tales Dido and Aeneas by Pierre-Narcisse Guérin. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

An evening of Baroque opera

Dido and Aeneas, one of the most beloved Baroque-period operas, will be performed at the Bangalore International Centre this weekend. Presented by the Legato School of Music, this performance promises to bring together some of the finest talents from India and Sweden, offering a rich mix of instrumental music, dance, arias, and choirs.

Composed by Henry Purcell, *Dido and Aeneas* is based on Virgil's *Aeneid* and remains one of the earliest and most important of English operas. The drama unfolds as Queen Dido of Carthage is torn between love and duty, and the fateful events that follow her encounter with the Trojan hero Aeneas. Purcell's only true opera, *Dido and Aeneas* is a masterpiece that continues to move audiences with its emotional depth and compelling music.

The dates of composition and the first performance are uncertain. It is known, through references in letters, that it was performed at a girls' school in Chelsea, London, sometime before the end of 1689. However, some scholars argue that the opera was composed and performed for the Royal Court of either James II or Charles II with a date as early as 1684, and that the reference in the prologue to the joy of a marriage between two monarchs is an allegorical one.

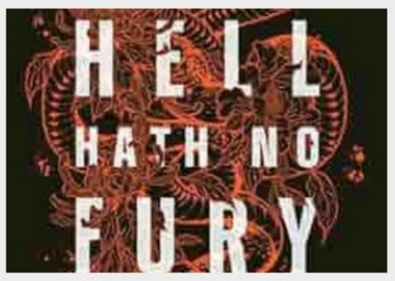
The production features a talented international cast, including Swedish mezzo-soprano Maria Forsström as Dido, Indian baritone Rahul Bharadwaj as Aeneas, and soprano Tanisha Herbert Rozario as Belinda. The performance will also be accompanied by exceptional instrumentalists, including violinists Carol George and Arun Rozario, cellist Kristina Winiarski, and conductor Sofia Winiarski, whose exceptional credentials include prestigious performances across Europe.

The production will showcase dancers from The Lewis Foundation of Classical Ballet, choreographed by Iryna Hryshukova.

On January 24, from 7pm to 8.30pm at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur. Entry is free (RSVP required).

STEPOUT

Rural touch
The Grand Rajasthani Exhibition, organised by Maaruthi Enterprises is underway and brings together rural artisans from the Eastern part of India. On display are cotton and silk handlooms and handicrafts, Orissa tie-and-dye, dress materials, West Bengal cotton saris and more. *On till January 30, at Terige Bhavana, Terige Bhavana Road, Nagarabhavi. Call 8951899961.*



Short 'n' sweet
Be a part of a curated, literary and community event, presented by Bhumika Anand from the Bangalore Writers Workshop (BWW). This month's discussion will be from *The Woman Who Lost Her Head* by Madhavi Mahadevan, and *Hell Hath* No Fury by Shinie Antony.
On January 25, 4pm at Atta Galatta. Tickets on BookMyShow.

Goa on a platter
Café Delhi Heights has an ongoing festival that offers authentic Goan cuisine and these dishes will be available across all its outlets till February 5. The menu includes the iconic Goan masala fried fish, chicken cafreal, duck xacuti, Goan pork vindaloo, mutton kismour and more, along with a selection of Goan-inspired cocktails.
At all Cafe Delhi Heights outlets

BJP tries to placate Sriramulu

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

BJP national president J.P. Nadda is said to have spoken to B. Sriramulu, who is upset over being blamed for the party's defeat in the recent Sandur bypolls. Mr. Sriramulu has reportedly been assured that his issues with friend-turned-foe G. Janardhana Reddy will be sorted out amicably. Mr. Sriramulu is expected to go to New Delhi to meet the party high command, sources said.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok told media persons that he had spoken to Mr. Sriramulu and he would be coming to Bengaluru on Friday to meet the party leadership.

A senior party strategist said though Mr. Reddy had in 2008 helped the party make significant inroads in the Kalyana Karnataka region, he had become a baggage for the party after his arrest and only recently merged his party to the BJP again and had no mass base of his own. "The Valmiki community is about 7% of the State's population and Mr. Sriramulu is its most prominent leader. He may have lost two elections, but he remains a big leader of the community. There is no question of letting him go," he said.

The bitter fallout between Sriramulu and Reddy was long in the making

A series of developments over many years contributed to the souring of relations between the one-time buddies

Kumar Buradikatti
KALABURAGI

BJP leader and former Minister B. Sriramulu's recent outburst against his long-term associate, business partner, and friend G. Janardhana Reddy has shocked many. However, for those observing political developments in Ballari, this was waiting to happen for some time.

The tension escalated after BJP national general secretary Radha Mohan Das Agarwal met with the Karnataka party leadership, where Mr. Sriramulu was apparently held accountable for the party candidate's defeat in the Sandur byelection. The next day, Mr. Sriramulu publicly accused Mr. Reddy of misleading the BJP national leadership, allegedly conspiring to end his political career.

"The relationship between the two deteriorated significantly after Mr. Reddy's imprisonment in multiple illegal mining cases 13 years ago. While Mr. Reddy languished in jail, Mr. Sriramulu politically flourished by assuming prominent offices in the government as well as the party. Mr. Reddy was upset with Mr. Sriramulu, whom he believed owed his political rise to him, for not providing sufficient support during his imprisonment," a party insider in Ballari said.

G. Janardhana Reddy and B. Sriramulu at the BJP-JD(S) 'Mysuru chalo' padayatra in Bengaluru in August 2024.

When party was formed

The second major rift between the leaders surfaced after Mr. Reddy launched his political party Kalyana Rajya Pragathi Paksha (KRPP) in December 2022. Mr. Reddy, despite playing a crucial role in expanding the party's influence and facilitating the first BJP government in Karnataka in 2008 under B.S. Yediyurappa, felt "sidelined" within the party.

Mr. Reddy sought to combine his financial resources with Mr. Sriramulu's popularity to build the party. He expected Mr. Sriramulu, a prominent Naik/Beda community leader, to join KRPP despite their strained relations. He hoped to demonstrate their indispensability to the BJP by securing a substantial number of seats in the 2023 Assembly elections.

However, this strategy backfired as Mr. Sriramulu refused to join the KRPP. Consequently, Mr. Reddy emerged as the sole winner of his party in that election (from Gangavathi). Even his wife, Gali Lakshmi Aruna, suffered a crushing defeat to the young candidate Nara Bharath Reddy of the Congress in Ballari city.

"Mr. Sriramulu's refusal to join KRPP turned out to be a major cause for the deterioration of the relationship between the two leaders, prompting Mr. Reddy to attempt to undermine Mr. Sriramulu's political influence. There were rumours that Mr. Reddy helped Congress candidate B. Nagendra in Ballari Rural to ensure the defeat of Mr. Sriramulu ,who contested as BJP candidate in the constituency in the 2023 Assembly elections," said another political activist.

Boiling point

The rift between the two leaders reached a boiling point during the Sandur byelection after Mr. Sriramulu, a top contender for the BJP ticket, was denied nomination.

"Mr. Reddy ensured that Mr. Sriramulu would not get the BJP ticket, which ultimately went to Bangaru Hanumantha. He seized the opportunity to campaign extensively for the party candidate, aiming to regain his influence within the party and reassert his dominance over the Ballari district. In contrast, Mr. Sriramulu's involvement in the campaign was noticeably subdued. Mr. Reddy subsequently attributed the defeat to Mr. Sriramulu's indifference in the campaign," said Shreeshaila Haldahalli, a Sandur-based activist and political observer.

Apparently, the ongoing larger rift in the BJP leadership in the State has also contributed its part to the worsening relationship between Mr. Reddy and Mr. Sriramulu, who identified themselves with two rival groups - the former with BJP State unit president B.Y. Vijayendra and the latter with Ramesh Jarkiholi.

Meanwhile, Mr. Sriramulu continued his tirade against Mr. Reddy on Thursday. Responding to Mr. Reddy's alleged attempts to project him as a "criminal", Mr. Sriramulu hit back by stating that he would "expose all criminal acts" committed by the former. "If he tries to project me as criminal and tarnishes my image, I will expose his criminal acts before the people with evidence," Mr. Sriramulu told media representatives at his residence in Ballari.

HC direction to CID on derogatory remark case against C.T. Ravi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday directed the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) not to precipitate till January 30 the criminal case registered against C.T. Ravi, BJP MLC, on the allegation of using a derogatory word against Minister for Women and Child Development Laxmi Hebbalkar in the Legislative Council at Suvarna Soudha at Belagavi in December last year.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the interim order on a petition filed by Mr. Ravi, who is a member of the Council. Mr. Ravi had contended that the police have no jurisdiction over the affairs that occurs inside the Houses of the Legislature.

The interim order will be in operation till the court decides the issue on whether Chairman of the Council has the exclusive jurisdiction to deal with the matters that occur inside the Council, irrespective of whether the House was in session or not.

Senior advocate C.V. Nagesh, appearing for Mr. Ravi, pointed out that the Council Chairman had taken up the issue of use of derogatory words inside the House and closed the proceedings.

Referring to the apex court's judgment in the case of Sita Soren vs Union of India, Mr. Nagesh said what transpires within the Houses of the Legislature comes under exclusive jurisdiction as it comes under the privileges of the respective Houses of the Legislature. The words spoken by the legislators inside the Council cannot be a subject matter of investigation by the police as it is a matter of privileges of the legislators that has to be dealt by the Chairman of the House, Mr. Nagesh said, while relying on the apex court's verdict.

However, State Public Prosecutor (SPP) B.A. Belliyappa said that Mr. Ravi had used the derogatory word after the proceedings of the House was adjourned. As the House was not in session when the remarks were made, the matter does not fall under the purview of privileges of legislators. Any crime occurring inside the House would be a matter of investigation by the jurisdictional police, the SPP contended.

Stating that the legal issue of jurisdiction requires to be adjudicated, the court adjourned further hearing till January 30.

'Microfinance loan volume grew threefold in four years'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The total gross loan portfolio of microfinance institutions in Karnataka has surged from ₹16,946 crore in March 2019 to ₹42,265 crore in the last financial year that ended March 2024, said Microfinance Industry Network (MFIN), a Self-Regulatory Organisation recognised by the RBI.

In Karnataka, microfinance institutions currently serve over 63 lakh unique individual borrowers of microcredit loans.

At a press conference on Thursday, the office-bearers said microfinance customers had shown "alacrity in learning about good credit discipline." Rama Kamaraju, Head, State Initiatives, MFIN, said microfinance operations of RBI-regulated entities in State traversed a smooth path even during demonetisation and COVID-19.

CM, Dy. CM should stop 'nakli kusti' for power: Brinda Karat

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader and vice-president of Adivasi Aakrosh Manch Brinda Karat urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar to stop their 'nakli kusti' (fake wrestling) for power and focus on development of oppressed tribal groups and address other burning issues of Karnataka.

Speaking at the Adivasi Aakrosh rally in Mangaluru Thursday, Ms. Karat said the Congress has come to power in Karnataka with the votes of oppressed communities like the Koragas. But, so far, the Congress government has done nothing to end oppression of the Koragas and tribal communities. "Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar are fighting among themselves for power. You both are wasting your energy," she said.

Ms. Karat said the manch has started the real *kusti* to preserve rights of Koragas and other oppressed communities. It will keep a close eye on the Union and the Karnataka Budgets for 2025-26 to ensure allocation for development of particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs), she said.

There are 75 PVTGs, comprising 10.5 lakh households, living in 2,870 places in India. In Karnataka, Koragas and Jenu Kurubas are the two recognised PVTGs, and they number 62,000. Koragas, whose population is 16,000, are the most oppressed among the PVTGs, she said. She also expressed concern over the falling birth rate and infant mortality rate in the community, attributing it to wrong policies and programmes.

Leaders speak of *tyaga* to save Cong.

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

Amidst a game of one-upmanship between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D.K. Shivakumar on the demand for appointment of a full-time KPCC president, leaders in the ruling Congress, including AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge, have been preaching the imperative for party leaders to be ready for *tyaga* (sacrifice) to keep the house in order.

Mr. Kharge, Priyanka Gandhi, MP, and several others have been requesting the senior leaders to put aside their personal expectations, make sacrifices, and work with unity and a sense of common purpose.

A rare instance

There have not been many instances of leaders sacrificing major political posts in the Karnataka government. In one instance, former Chief Minister S.R. Kanthi made "political sacrifice" by giving up the Chief Minister's post to S. Nijalingappa in 1962. In the 1962 Assembly elections, former Chief Minister Nijalingappa lost the elections in Hosadurga against G.T Rangappa of Praja Socialist Party. Kanthi was sworn in the Chief Minister. Later, Nijalingappa won the byelections from Bagalkot and Kanthi, who was the Chief Minister just for 96 days (March 14 to June 20, 1962), handed over the chair to the latter (Nijalingappa) in June 1962 and he continued till 1968. Nijalingappa's defeat was one of the triggers for present leaders to contest elections from two constituencies and to ensure victory in one of them.

Former Chief Minister S.R. Kanthi (left) made a 'political sacrifice' by giving up the key post to S. Nijalingappa in 1962. FILE PHOTO

Now, no one seems to be ready to make political sacrifices by giving up their positions either in the government or the party. However, the leaders across political parties, specifically in the Congress, have been using it as political rhetoric to counter charges.

It all started with Mr. Siddaramaiah and his loyalists who began the campaign of *tyaga* for the interest of the party, citing "one-man-one post formula." They have often been citing MP Sonia Gandhi's decision to turn down the post of the Prime Minister in 2004 as "sacrifice". The call for "sacrifice" gained momentum after Home Minister G. Parameshwara recently said he quit the ministry in 2017 for taking the responsibility as the KPCC president ahead of the 2018 Assembly poll. Now, he has sought a similar gesture from Mr. Shivakumar, who is holding multiple posts.

Miffed over Dr. Parameshwara's remark, Mr. Shivakumar said he has made several sacrifices for the party. When the late N. Dharam Singh was the Chief Minister, he kept quiet. During Mr. Siddaramaiah's first term as the Chief Minister too, he made sacrifices by working for the party.

Mr. Kharge warned Ministers not to discuss the change of the KPCC leadership, recalling sacrifices made by Mahatma Gandhi during the freedom struggle, in an attempt to give messages to factions in the party while addressing the 'Jai Bapu, Jai Bhim, Jai Samvidhan' convention in Belagavi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby intimated that my client has negotiated to purchase the property mentioned in the schedule hereunder from its owner in title **Sri. M.G. Nataraju** and any person/s, body corporate, financial entity, Banks and any person/s having any kind of objection or claim/right/title of what so ever over the schedule property herein are hereby called upon to lodge their claim, objection/s if any, with supporting documents thereon with the undersigned within **seven days (7)** from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the schedule property is free from all sorts of encumbrances and claims and shall complete the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE

ITEM No-1: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing survey No. 67/15 measuring about 39.80 guntas bearing 11E sketch No. 21011024718172001 situated at Kuluvanahalli village, Thyamagondlu Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore and bounded on by: **East by** :Road, **West by :** Property bearing survey No. 67/14, **North by:** Government Road, **South By** : Property of Lokesh S/o Siddappa.

ITEM No-2: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing survey No. 67/14 measuring about 34.8 guntas along with kharab of 0-2.8.0 guntas bearing 11E sketch No. 21011024729-648001 and situated at Kuluvanahalli village, Thyamagondlu Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore and bounded on: **East by:** Property bearing survey No. 67/8, **West by:** Property of Arasamma W/o Thimmappaiah, **North by** : Government Road, South By:Property of Lokesh S/o Siddappa.

S. NAGABHUSHANA, Advocate,
No. 558, 2nd Floor, 52nd Cross, Near Rama Mandir, 3rd Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to the public that my client proposes/intending to purchase the landed properties mentioned in the Schedule stated below from **Sr. Mary, C/o Ouseph,** Aged 72 years, Sister Superior, Society of the Sisters of Precious Blood, Aradhana Convent, Arakere, IIBM Post, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru– 560076, who has represented herself to be the owner of Schedule properties, having exclusive rights of alienation.

Any person/s claiming any right, title, interest or claim whatsoever in and over the Schedule properties may lodge their claims/objections with documentary proof thereof, with the undersigned within FIFTEEN (15) DAYS of Publication of this Notice, as otherwise, my client shall proceed to complete the sale transaction as if there are no subsisting claims or objections and that all such claims or objections not filed in time shall be deemed to have been waived and given up and shall not be binding on my client.

SCHEDULE

ITEM NO.1: All that piece and parcel of the Agricultural dry land bearing Sy.No.24/1, measuring 02 Acre 30 Guntas, akara 2.48 paisa, situated at Mandanahalli Village, Jayapura Hobli, Mysuru Taluk and Mysuru District and bounded on: **East by**: Land belonging to Sri. P. Rajappa, **West by:** Road / Voni, **North by:** Land belonging to Sri. Swami S/o Basavarajappa, **South by:** Land belonging to Sr. Mary (Sy.no: 26/1).

ITEM NO.2: All that piece and parcel of the Agricultural dry land bearing Sy.No.26/1, measuring 01 Acre 19 Guntas, akara 1.33 paisa, situated at Mandanahalli Village, Jayapura Hobli, Mysuru Taluk and Mysuru District and bounded on: **East by:** Land belonging to Sri. P. Rajappa, **West by:** Road/Voni, **North by:** Land belonging to Sr. Mary (Sy. no: 24/1), **South by:** Road.

Sd/- S.M. SREERAMA REDDY, Advocate
Office No.441, 2nd Floor, Alankar Pearl Plaza, No. 23, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.
Mobile: 72049 91999, 9686772661.
E-Mail ID: smsreddy.adv@gmail.com

From Page One

First case of monkeypox reported in State

Harsh Gupta, Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, and Ansar Ahmed, Director of Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme, said in a statement that the patient was stable and did not have any serious complications. He is likely to be discharged shortly.

While asking people not to panic following the reporting of the case, the officials said the disease was mild in nature. People had to watch for common symptoms associated with the disease like skin rashes along with fever, headache, muscle aches and chills, and get tested, especially if they had a travel history to countries declared as high risk for this virus or if they had been in very close contact with persons affected with mpox.

It is a mild self-limiting disease in most of the cases, except for a few immune compromised patients having comorbidities who need to exercise greater caution. The treatment was medication for fever, bodyache, and antibiotics for secondary infection from infected lesions/rashes and ensuring sufficient hydration, nutrition, and rest. The disease generally spreads only through very close and intimate contact. At present, there are no advisories from the government on mandatory testing of travellers from other countries.

Five 'water warriors' to be honoured

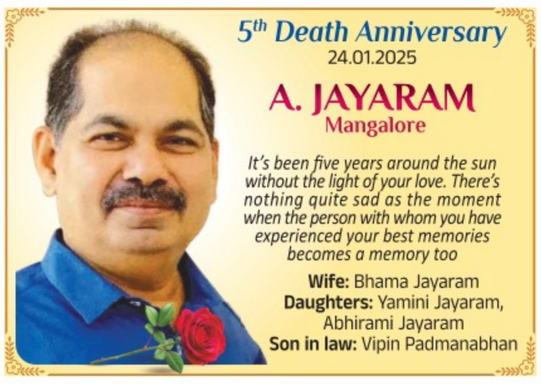
The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In recognition of their contribution to the Jal Jeevan Mission, five 'water warriors' from Karnataka will be honoured at the 76th Republic Day celebrations in Delhi on January 26.

The 'water warriors' are Shivamma, president of Village Water and Sanitation Committee (VWSC) of Kollur village in Koppal taluk; Keshava Kotian, chairperson of the gram panchayat and VWSC of 80 Badagabettu villages in Udupi district; Sridhar Patil, gram panchayat president of Ganjalakheda in Kalaburagi; Ananthamma, chairperson of VWSC at Kere Kondapura, Molakalmuru; and Virappa Ramappa Chikkur, chairperson of VWSC in Halagali, Mudhol, Bagalkot district.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES



5th Death Anniversary
24.01.2025
A. JAYARAM
Mangalore

It's been five years around the sun without the light of your love. There's nothing quite sad as the moment when the person with whom you have experienced your best memories becomes a memory too

Wife: Bhama Jayaram
Daughters: Yamini Jayaram, Abhirami Jayaram
Son in law: Vipin Padmanabhan

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
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DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

DEATH

R PARTHASARATHI (86), Retired Special Correspondent, The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 23, January, 2025. Address: Plot No:23, Jain Nagar, 2nd Street, Hasthinapuram, Chennai-600064. Contact No: 98840 72488.

REMEMBRANCE

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

SHRI. ANANTHA JAYARAM

Passed away peacefully on 24 January 2024

You will live on forever in our hearts!

Sudha Jayaram, Veena, Shruthi and Family

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the Schedule Property from its owners **SMT KANIKA AGARWAL and SRI. MANU GUPTA.** The Owners represent that they are the absolute owners of the Schedule Property and apart from them there are no other person/s, having any right, title or claim over the Schedule Property and the Schedule Property is not mortgaged, or encumbered in any manner. The Owner represent that they have not entered into any MoU, Agreement of Sale or any sort of arrangement with any other person/s, with respect to the Schedule Property or part thereof. If any person/s having objection/s or claims may with documentary evidence lodge their objection/claims **within 7 (Seven) days** from the date of this notice with the undersigned, failing which, my client shall proceed with the purchase of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Three Bedroom Residential Apartment bearing No.E-0433 in the Fourth Floor of Tower – E in the Project "Brigade 7 Gardens", bearing E-PID No. 2620163003, Property No. 355/55/17/1/17/2/17/3/20/5/20/6/20/7/22/4/23/4/355/E-0433, measuring 1059.29 Sq. Feet (98.41 Sq. Meters) of Carpet Area and 543.86 Sq, Feet (50.53 Sq. Meters) of proportionate share in the common area, in all measuring 1603 Sq. Feet (149 Sq. Meters) of Super Built-up area together with one covered car parking in the basement/stilt level and 520.26 Sq. Feet of undivided share in the residentially converted land, totally admeasuring 8 Acres 15 Guntas, bearing Khatha bearing No, 55, Sy. Nos 17/1, 17/2, 17/3, 20/5 20/6 20/7 22/4 23/4, situated at Thurahalli Village, Uttarhalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore and bounded on the: **East by :** Property bearing Sy. Nos 16/2, 17/4, 20/8, and 22/5, **West by:** Property bearing Sy. Nos. 19, 20/3, 20/4, 22/3, 22/3, 23/3 & 22/6, **North by :** Road and Private Property, **South by :** Nala and Property in Sy.No.71.

H M HARSHA
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Date: 23-01-2025

When flowers tell the story of Valmiki Ramayana

One of the main attractions of the show is the floral model of Valmika 'hutta' (anthill), which signifies Valmiki's origin

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The beginning of every year in Bengaluru is marked by the Glass House in Lalbagh Botanical Garden turning into a riot of colours, as it hosts the Republic Day flower show organised by the Horticulture Department. This year, the show which was inaugurated on January 17 is designed around the theme of Adikavi Maharshi Valmiki, the poet who wrote the epic Ramayana. It offers everything that the visitors need to know about Valmiki, but through flowers.

One of the main attractions of the show is the floral model of Valmika hutta (anthill) which signifies Valmiki's origin. The story goes that as he meditated intensely, lost to the world, termites built an anthill around him. He eventually emerged out of the anthill, which gave him his name. *Valmika*, in Sanskrit, means anthill. The model is 14-ft wide and 15-ft tall and has a circumference of 38-ft The colour closely resembles the actual colour of an anthill.

The visitors have also been enthralled by the floral recreation of Maharshi Valmiki's ashram and the scenario that led to the creation of Ramayana. From the idols of Rama and Sita to the golden deer which plays a key role in the epic tale, the 14-ft wide and 24-ft tall model paints a floral picture of Ramayana. A total of 5.5 lakh flowers including red and yellow roses, Calcutta and general variety of *sevanthige* in hues of purple, yellow, chocolate and white will be used over the course of the show for this model alone.

After Valmiki, many poets wrote their own versions of Ramayana in their own styles, some of which also gained immense popularity. The busts of such poets, including Kannada's very own Kuvempu who wrote the *Ramayana Darshanam* are being displayed in the show along with information about their work inside the Glass House.

The Indo-American Hybrid Seeds Company has set up an attractive display of exotic orchids, miniature anthuriums, Cala lilies and bromeliads at the entrance of the Glass House giving visitors a chance to see many different varities of flowers. The flower show will continue in Lalbagh until January 27 and visitors can acquire tickets either online or at the entrance of Lalbagh.

A scene from the Ramayana. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Different types of flowers on display at Lalbagh. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Photo of Rama and Sita at Lalbagh. SUDHAKARA JAIN

A sculpture of Jatayu from the Ramayana. SUDHAKARA JAIN

The story goes that as he meditated intensely, lost to the world, termites built an anthill around him. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Kala Dhwani – Echoes of India's Art at Chitrakala Parishath from today

Raghu Dixit. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Infosys Foundation, in collaboration with Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, will present *Kala Dhwani - Echoes of India's Art* from January 24 to 26, 2025, at the Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath on Kumarakrupa Road.

The event will run daily from 10 a.m. to 8.30 p.m., offering a variety of activities. Visitors can enjoy dance and music performances, hands-on art experiences, film screenings, and exhibitions from 10.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. These will feature folk cuisines, leather puppets, philately, textiles, and handicrafts.

Celebrity concerts will take place from 6.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. on each day. The concert lineup includes January 24: Raghu Dixit, renowned for blending Indian folk and contemporary music. January 25: Rajhesh Vaidhya and Kumaresh with a 4-piece band, folk artists, and Afro-Latin/Folk instruments. January 26: A performance by B. Jayashree, Antardhwani led by Praveen D. Rao, M.D. Pallavi and team, along with Ananya Bhat. *Admission to all concerts is free.*

Marginalised women in Bengaluru receive e-auto

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

United Way Bengaluru, an NGO, has distributed six e-autos and smartphones to empower distressed women from marginalised communities in the city.

The initiative was implemented in collaboration with GE Aerospace in India, a provider of jet and turboprop engines and integrated systems for aviation aircraft.

Supported by Parihar, an initiative of the Bengaluru Police Commissioner's office, the e-auto programme is dedicated to creating sustainable livelihood opportunities for women from vulnerable communities.

According to the NGO, under this programme, women are trained and skilled to enable them to operate e-auto and partner with cab aggregators. Each e-auto is fitted with a smartphone to efficiently manage ride requests through aggregator apps.

The eco-friendly vehicle helps to reduce air pollution, lower carbon emissions, and decrease noise levels in Bengaluru's urban areas.

Kerala Tourism unfolds new summer holiday products in Bengaluru

Sikha Surendran with artists performing the traditional art of Kerala. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As the summer holiday season is fast approaching, Kerala Tourism will be readying new products before the domestic visitors, mostly targeting school holidays and family audiences, said Tourism Minister P.A. Mohamed Riyas.

This time around, the campaign would be particularly focusing on North Kerala, especially Bekal, Wayanad and Kozhikode, besides lesser-known destinations with vastly improved infrastructure, the minister said in connection with Kerala Tourism Partnership Meet 2025 held in the City on Thursday.

Enhance visisbility

"The campaign to showcase Kerala in its myriad hues is part of the innovative promotion strategy to enhance visibility for the destinations and unique tourism products the state has to offer while directly connecting with potential visitors from key source cities," Mr. Riyas pointed out.

Sikha Surendran, Director Kerala Tourism and Managing Director, of Kerala Tourism Development Corporation said anticipating a surge in domestic footfalls during the summer holiday season, Kerala Tourism has planned an array of travel trade networking events by organising B2B roadshows to roll out new products before a wider audience, besides active participation in major trade fairs.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JANUARY 24, 1975

Bangalore Varsity PG Students Call Off Strike

Bangalore: The 11-day old strike by the students of the post graduate course of the Bangalore University was called off here today.

The Central College Association which spearheaded the strike today announced the withdrawal of the strike after meeting the Education Minister Mr. M. Mallikarjuna Swamy and the Vice Chancellor of the University, Dr. H. Narasimhiah. The strike had been called off since the Government had decided to meet the demands of the students, the Association said in a press note.

The Bangalore University which had suspended indefinitely all classes in the wake of violent incidents on January 21 announced that the classes would start working from tomorrow.

Harvest is Over But Price Rise Persists

Bangalore: A common topic for discussion these days is the rising prices. A statement from the Government side or even a small report in a newspaper about the price trends attracts immediate attention and becomes debatable with pessimism looming large.

Will 1975 be better and bring some relief is the question uppermost in the minds of many households, subjected to nightmarish experience of balancing family budgets with soaring prices.

Though there are announcements occasionally of a downward trend in the prices of some commodities, the situation continues to be gloomy.

Karnataka InFocus

THE HINDU

IN SHORT

A heritage structure from Wadiyar era

The Oriental Research Institute was established by Chamaraja Wadiyar in 1891 and was originally known as The Government Oriental Library. It was under the Department of Education, Government of Mysore, and housed in the Jubilee Hall whose foundation was laid in 1887, to mark 50 years of Queen Victoria's accession to the British throne.

Evolution of the institution over time

The Government Oriental Library was subsequently brought under the University of Mysore which was established in 1916. In 1946, the name was changed to Oriental Research Institute. A micro-film section was established in 1954 to preserve the palm leaf manuscripts and more than 4000 of them, were microfilmed before digital technology evolved.

It houses some of the rarest books

The ORI shot to international fame when a fully extant copy of Kautiyla's Arthashastra was first discovered by Rudrapatana Shamashastry in 1905; it was published in Sanskrit in 1909 and in English in 1915. The ORI has thousands of works on different subjects and this includes Lilavathi, a mathematical treatise by Bhaskara II, who lived in the 12th century CE.

Several esoteric books in library

Other rare works in ORI include Ashvavaidyam, whose author is not known, and it is a book on treatment of horse diseases; Suryasiddhanta, dealing with celestial objects; Gajayurveda, which deals with therapy for treating elephants; Kashyapasamhita, which deals with treatment of bites of poisonous reptiles, to name a few.

Help from the U.S. Consulate General

The leaks in the heritage building threatened the safety of the manuscripts and in 2012, the U.S. Consulate General, Chennai, made a grant of 50,000 dollars for renovation.
On March 31, 2015, Mr. Richard Verma, who was at that time the United States Ambassador to India, inaugurated the renovated building.

Digitising palm leaf manuscripts to preserve a slice of India's intellectual heritage

The project to digitise the palm leaf manuscripts, taken up by the Mythic Society in Bengaluru, is nearing completion

R. Krishna Kumar
MYSURU

The Oriental Research Institute in Mysuru, which has a vast collection of centuries-old palm leaf manuscripts, is set to unlock a slice of India's ancient knowledge to scholars around the world for research and further studies.

For, the project to digitise the palm leaf manuscripts - which contain a wealth of Indological material ranging from Indian culture, philosophy to science and literature - and taken up by the Mythic Society, Bengaluru, is nearing completion.

15,000 bundles

The ORI is a repository of nearly 15,000 bundles of palm leaf manuscripts enshrining nearly 70,000 works of a bygone era. The collection encompasses a wide gamut of subjects that constitute a slice of human and India's intellectual heritage, and is country's priceless asset.

The palm leaf manuscripts are entirely in Sanskrit though the script is Kannada, Tigalari, Granthalipi and Nandininagari according to ORI Director D.P. Madhusudhanacharya who pointed out that the literary works encapsule a range of subjects from Vedanta and Upanishads to Rasayanashastra or ancient Indian chemistry; Ramayana and Mahabharata to Bhagavad Gita, Mathematics to art and architecture.

A key find

But it was the discovery of Kautilya's *Arthashastra* by renowned scholar Dr. Rudrapatna Shamashastry in 1905 that catapulted the ORI into international prominence.

It was first published in Sanskrit in 1909 and in English in 1915 and changed the western and prevailing notion among historians, that ancient India lacked political statecraft or sound governance rooted in codified treatise.

A sample of a manuscript inscribed on palm leaves and preserved at the Oriental Research Institute in Mysuru. M.A. SRIRAM

The original work is believed to correspond with the date of the rule of Chandragupta Maurya in the 4th century BCE and is attributed to Chanakya or Kautilya.

However, scholars are divided over both the date and the authorship and aver that it was the work of several authors spanning centuries.

Some of the manuscripts at ORI are nearly 800 years old but most of them are 300 to 500 years old. And there was the possibility of the manuscripts being lost to posterity as they tend to become brittle over time and decay due to natural process.

It was then that the digitisation project was conceived and after many false starts, it was finally taken up in association with the Mythic Society, Bengaluru.

Treatment of palm leaf manuscripts as part of the digitisation project. M.A. SRIRAM

Palm leaf manuscript of Kautilya's *Arthashastra* preserved at Oriental Research Institute in Mysuru. M.A. SRIRAM

Technical guide to project

S. Ravi, Secretary of the Mythic Society said that the ORI - which functions under the University of Mysore - entered into a memorandum of understanding with it in 2022 and technical methodology was approved after a lot of research by S. Subbaraman who is the technical guide for the project.

A Padma Shri awardee, Mr. Subbaraman, who is in his 90s and retired as the Superintending Archaeological Chemist from the Archaeological Survey of India, had worked in the restoration of Bamiyan Buddha in Afghanistan from 1969 to 1977, restoration of Ajanta paintings, conservation work at Jain caves of the 9th century near Vadamathimangalam, close to Tirumalai in Tamil Nadu etc.

The conservation methodology validated by Mr. Subbaraman, has been adopted for the treatment and preservation of the manuscripts and it entailed three stages, said Mr. Ravi. Cleaning using eco-friendly chemicals and applying lemon grass oil and making the scripts more readable, establishing a fumigation centre and finally digitizing the manuscripts, he added.

Then nearly 15,000 bundles of palm leaf manuscripts had about 12.50 lakh folios and as the writing was on both sides of each folio, about 2.5 million images had to be scanned, edited and the soft copies are now on hard disc, explained Mr. Ravi.

But not many are aware that apart from palm leaf manuscripts, the ORI also possesses about 5000 paper manuscripts and they are now in the process of being digitised. Described as one of the biggest digitisation exercises taken up in India, the Mythic Society has invested more than ₹2 crore on the project.

Palm leaf manuscripts are classified and arranged in bundles. M.A. SRIRAM

Nearly 40 women - who were trained - and came from economically weaker section of society - were trained in conservation exercise and deployed by the Mythic Society, and this also enabled the workers to earn a living.

Dr. Madhusudancharya said that once the digitisation project is completed - within the next few months - the ORI, which has already prepared a detailed catalogue of the works in its collections, will upload it (catalogue).

"This will enable scholars and researchers from anywhere in the world to scour through the list and place a request for any work to take up further studies or for use as reference. But it will come with a fee to be fixed by the University of Mysore," he added.

Long overdue

One of the most ambitious projects undertaken in the field of digitisation of palm leaf manuscripts, the exercise was long overdue as the folios were getting brittle due to repeated physical handling and the process of natural decay.

And notwithstanding the physical conservation of these priceless manuscripts taken up in the past, there was a threat that it could be lost to posterity.

But with the digitisation exercise almost completed, it will help extend the lifespan of these manuscripts as the availability of the soft copy will also obviate the need to handle them physically.

And apart from safeguarding the centuries of scholarship of ancient India and a slice of intellectual heritage enshrined in these manuscripts, the digitisation will also make the works available for a wider audience and promote further studies and research, to understand the past.

Treasure trove of 50,000 books

R. Krishna Kumar
BENGALURU

The Oriental Research Institute (ORI) which is known for its collection of palm leaf manuscripts, also has 50,000 books most of which are out of print, or difficult to come by and access, in the present times.

The books are in various languages and these works too will be digitised and uploaded to the website to enable scholars to access them for reference and research. The ORI has signed an MoU with Chennai-based Save Our Country Foundation for the purpose and the project will take three years to be completed.

ORI intends to publish many works that are out of print and bring out new releases from its archives

As a research centre, the ORI also intends to publish many works that are out of print and bring out new releases from its archives, according to Pandit D.P. Madhusudhanacharya, Director, ORI.

The Central Sanskrit University, Delhi, has donated ₹45 lakh under Ashtadasi scheme to publish Jagannatha Vijaya and Tattwa Chintamani which are being edited and translated by well-known Sanskrit scholar Dr. H.V. Nagaraja Rao. Almost, 50% of the editing and translation is complete.

The Oriental Research Institute in Mysuru which has a treasure trove of palm leaf manuscripts in its collections. M.A. SRIRAM

The Indian Knowledge System of the Ministry of Education, Government of India, has donated ₹12 lakh to publish rate books that include *Rajadharma Sangraha, Dasharathanandana Charitam, Bhojaraja Charucharya*, a treatise on health by the 11th century CE scholar king of Malwa region; and *Vedanta Siddhantamutavalli*. These rare works are slated for release in June 2025 and already four scholars are working on it.

Another rare work of great scholarship is *Sritattvanidhi* authored by Mummadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar (1794-1868) who ruled over Mysuru kingdom for almost 70 years. It is a unique encyclopaedia with illustrations and is in nine parts.

The ORI has already published four parts of the treatise and the fifth one is due for release in February. The remaining four parts will be ready for print within a year and scholar T.V. Satyanarayana Rao, and others are working on it. Besides, the first three volumes of Sritattvanidhi are out of print and Ms.Sudha Murthy, author, philanthropist and Rajya Sabha MP, has donated ₹10 lakh for their republication, said Dr. Madhusudanacharya.

Tusker rescued from well after high drama

Day-long tension and concern about jumbo's health end after officials clinch a deal with protesting residents and rescue elephant 20 hours after it fell into a well in Malappuram; authorities promise seven-km fencing to keep elephants at bay and a compensation of ₹1.5 lakh to plantation owner

Abdul Latheef Naha
MALAPPURAM

An elephant that fell into a well near Areekode in Malappuram district of Kerala was rescued and driven back into the nearby forest, ending the day-long protests and uncertainties on Thursday.

Though the tusker fell into the well at Urangattiri on a plantation belonging to a farmer in the morning, Forest Department staff could not initiate rescue operations immediately as local people resisted the move, pointing to the frequent elephant raids and attacks in the region.

Local political leaders too sided with them, posing a challenge to the forest and wildlife authorities.

The elephant was part of a herd that had damaged the farmlands of people living on the forest fringes. The farmers in the area have suffered heavy crop loss because of frequent elephant raids.

The area falls under the Nilambur North forest division.

Human-wildlife conflict: Local people stopping forest staff after an elephant fell into a well at Urangattiri in Malappuram district on Thursday. SAKEER HUSSAIN

Exhausted tusker

The tusker exhibited signs of exhaustion after remaining immobile the whole day in the well even as the authorities held several rounds of discussions with the protesters.

The day-long tension and concerns about the tusker's health ended when the authorities clinched a deal with the protesting residents and rescued the elephant nearly 20 hours after its fall.

The forest staff built a ramp into the well by digging the sidewall with an earthmover. The elephant climbed out of the well around 10 p.m. and was driven into the jungle.

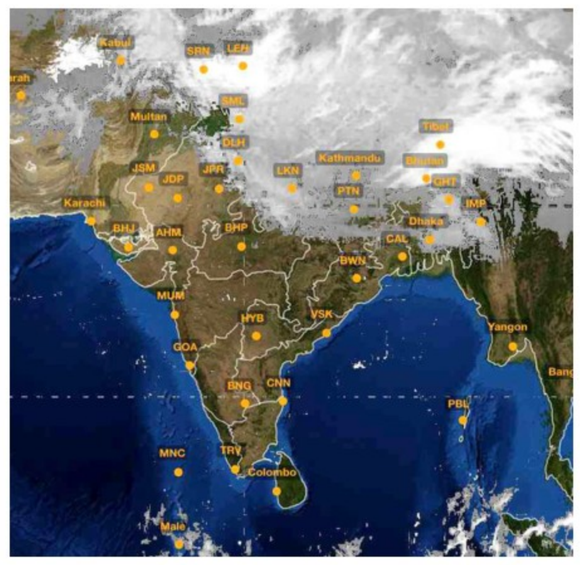
The people were assured of relief measures, including a seven-km fencing to keep herds at bay and a compensation of ₹1.5 lakh to the well's owner.

Prior to the rescue, P.V. Anvar, Trinamool Congress leader and former Independent MLA of Nilambur, said the elephant should be "buried alive". He said rescuing the elephant would aggravate the farmers' problems.

District Congress Committee president V.S. Joy said the forest staff would have to face the wrath of the people if the elephant returns to their farms after the rescue.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 19.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh and northeast Assam. Dense fog conditions likely in isolated pockets of Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim and Odisha. Cold wave conditions likely in isolated pockets of Himachal Pradesh

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	22.2	15.8	Kozhikode	—	32.4	25.0
Ahmedabad	—	29.5	14.2	Kurnool	—	34.0	18.7
Aizawl	—	27.5	10.4	Lucknow	—	25.4	10.1
Allahabad	—	28.4	11.4	Madurai	—	31.5	22.1
Bengaluru	—	29.9	17.8	Mangaluru	—	32.8	22.9
Bhopal	—	29.4	10.2	Mumbai	—	31.5	18.5
Bhubaneswar	—	32.4	16.6	Mysuru	—	31.8	15.4
Chandigarh	—	24.8	8.0	New Delhi	0.5	24.8	11.0
Chennai	—	30.9	22.5	Patna	—	21.2	14.7
Coimbatore	—	30.0	22.4	Port Blair	—	30.2	21.4
Dehradun	—	23.8	9.2	Puducherry	—	30.6	21.6
Gangtok	—	14.4	9.5	Pune	—	32.6	15.9
Goa	—	33.0	23.0	Raipur	—	33.6	16.2
Guwahati	—	19.3	15.1	Ranchi	—	29.2	12.0
Hubballi	—	33.0	18.0	Shillong	—	—	—
Hyderabad	—	30.6	18.2	Shimla	—	19.6	5.6
Imphal	—	24.2	7.5	Srinagar	—	13.3	-2.0
Jaipur	—	24.7	15.0	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.5	25.6
Kochi	—	32.8	26.8	Tiruchi	—	30.1	22.0
Kohima	—	17.4	5.6	Vijayawada	—	29.6	19.8
Kolkata	—	27.7	14.8	Visakhapatnam	—	30.5	19.7

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.19	..85	20	... 141	...116	
Bengaluru	.15	..40	32	... 126	92	
Chennai	...7	..10	38	... 108	97	
Delhi	.12	..89	80	... 300	...255	
Hyderabad	.12	112	29	... 144	...137	
Kolkata	.12	106	33	... 269	...175	
Lucknow	.10	..63	50	... 308	...261	
Mumbai	.34	..60	42	... 272	...211	
Pune	..—	178	64	... 201	...136	
Visakhapatnam	...8	102	28	... 229	...191	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Talcher, Odisha recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 317 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 28

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Centre yet to give nod to Cauvery-Vellar project: SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has found that the Union government is yet to grant 'in-principle approval' to the Cauvery-South Vellar Link project four years after Tamil Nadu sought clearance from the Jal Shakti Ministry in January 2021.

A Bench of Justices A.S. Oka and A.G. Masih noted the fact while disposing of an application filed by Karnataka urging the top court to restrain neighbouring Tamil Nadu from proceeding with the work on the project.

Tamil Nadu had written to the Centre in 2021 for in-principle approval to the Cauvery-South Vellar Link project. FILE PHOTO

The Bench disposed of the application while observing it was not necessary to consider Karnataka's interim plea for injunction as the request by Tamil Nadu for project clearance has still not received the 'in-principle approval' of the Centre.

SC refuses urgent hearing on use of jumbos in festivals

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court of India on Thursday did not heed an oral plea to urgently take up for hearing an application to lift its order of December 19, 2024, staying a clutch of directions issued by the Kerala High Court, including that elephants must maintain a minimum distance of three metres from each other at religious festivals, parades and exhibitions.

The oral mentioning was made by the counsel representing V.K. Venkitachalam, a petitioner in the case before the Kerala High Court. Intervening, advocate Abhilash M.R., representing Thiruvambady and Paramekkavu devaswoms, submitted that Mr. Venkitachalam's application and plea for urgent hearing was a ruse to disrupt the festival season in Kerala.

The Kerala High Court had passed a series of directions last November to regulate the use of elephants in festivities. FILE PHOTO

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office :- PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813 : Website : www.pspcl.in
(Contact NO. 96461-18774)

TENDER ENQUIRY No. : MQP-243/2024-25/PR Dated: 23.01.2025

CE/Metering, PSPCL, C-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites E-Tender for procurement of 17,000 no. 4-in-1 Polycarbonate Meter Boxes (Cabinets) for incorporating Single Phase Energy Meters. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 23.01.2025 (11:00 AM onwards).

NOTE: Corrigendum and amendments, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

C 48/25 76155/12/3841/2023/41063

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office :- PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813 : Website : www.pspcl.in
(Contact NO. 96461-18774)

Tender Enquiry No. : MQP-245/2024-25/PR Dated: 22.01.2025

CE/Metering, PSPCL, C-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites E-Tender for procurement of 84,000 no. 1-in-1 Polycarbonate Meter Boxes (Cabinets) for incorporating Single Phase Energy Meters. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 22.01.2025 (03:00 PM onwards).

NOTE: Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

C 47/25 76155/12/3838/2023/41057

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Road Infrastructure - Yelahanka Division, 3rd Floor,
Mini Vidhana Soudha, Yelahanka, Bengaluru - 560064.

No: EE/RI/YNK/TEND/04/2024-25 Date: 23-01-2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Ward Level Public Works, Urban Planning and Infrastructure Standing Committee and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike exercise the authority of the administrators., BBMP subject No. 128/2024-25 Dated: 26-08-2024 has accorded approval in Principle and Sanctioned Budget under Arterial and Sub Arterial Roads for taking up of the works listed below.
The Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure - Yelahanka Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the works detailed below.

(Standard Bid Document - KW-4)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	"Grants for Initiating Widening of Road including of Preparation of DPR, Land Acquisition of Cost, Demolition of Structures Re-Asphalting of Existing Road Width of Jakkur Road from Railway Track to KPSC Layout" **Approximate Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 392.02, EMD Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 5.89 (Rs. 1.00 Lakh** through KPP Portal, Balance **Rs. 4.89 Lakhs** in the form of Bank Guarantee / e-Bank Guarantee)

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Documents may be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 24-01-2025 onwards. 2)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **31-01-2025 at 16.00 Hours. 3)** Tenders must be Submitted Online through KPP Portal **on or before 16.00 Hours on 06-02-2025. 4)** Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid: **07-02-2025 at 16.30 Hours. 5)** Date and Time for Opening of Financial Bid: **Will be intimated to Technically Qualified Bidders.** Further details can be had from the above office

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Road Infrastructure - Yelahanka Division, BBMP.

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited,
Upper Tunga Project Division, Shimoga
Ph : 08182-257189 Fax : 08182-254832
E-mail : eeutpsmg@gmail.com

Short Term PercentageTender Notification
(Through KPP Portal only)

1)No.EE/UTPDN/SMG/KNNL/PB-3/T.N.NO.26/2024-25/Call 2 Dated: 22.01.2025
2)No.EE/UTPDN/SMG/KNNL/PB-3/T.N.NO.27/2024-25/Call 2 Dated: 22.01.2025

On Behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bengaluru, the Under signed invites tender Through e-portal system from Eligible contractors coming Under Head of Account 4701 Upper Tunga Project

(1) Apprx. Amount put to tender as per estimation is Rs 296.53 & 381.25 lakhs (Excluding GST). (2) Last date for questions/clarifications regarding the tender **: 27.01.2025 upto 5.30 p.m** (3) Date for Submission of filled tenders from **: 22.01.2025 up to 30.01.2025 to 5.29 P.M**

Further details on date of opening the Tender/Detail of work E.M.D. Amount/Terms and Conditions of the tender/Class of Contractor, Etc, can be obtained in the Tender Notification or from the office of the Under signed during office hours or in website **Https:\\kppp.Karnataka.gov.in** for further details the office of the Undersigned can be contacted during office hours on phone No 08182-254832
Information can be obtained through **https://kppp.Karnataka.gov.in/**

DIPR/SMG/No.136-01 zenkar/2024-25
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KNNL,U.T.P., Division, Shivamogga

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. DIVISION, GADAG.
Phone No : 08372-238782 Fax No. 08372-237268
E.Mail : eepwdgad@gmail.com
No: EEPWDGDG PB-1:Different Head/2024-25/4095
Date : 22/01/2025

Short Term Tender Notification

The Executive Engineer, Public works department. Division, Gadag invites itemwise tenders from eligible tenderers of 30 work of total amount of Rs. **4042.00** Lakh (Min estimate amount: Rs. **10.00** Lakhs to Max Estimate Amount: Rs. **400.00** Lakhs) for the Different Head of account on behalf of the Hon'able Governor of Karnataka as per Standard Bid Document KW-1, 2, 3 and 4 through http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in/

Work Indent No : I) 17249, 16126, 17378-Category-1, 17243, 17241, 17408 -ST, 16118-SC, 16127 Category-2A, 17306, 17542, 17253, 17254, 17255, 17239, 17256, 17237, 17312, 17337, 17357, 17308, 17382, 17372, 17311, 17401-Category-2A, 17399, 17108-SC 17131, 16880-ST-call-2, 16802-SC, and II) 17364

For the Part-I Works mentioned above (a) Last Date for Clarification up to : **30-01-2025** (b) Last Date for Receipt of Tenders : **04-02-2025** Noon 4.00 PM (c) Opening of Technical /Financial Bid Date : **05-02-2025** (d) Opening of Financial Bid Date : **06-02-2025**

For the Part-II Work mentioned above Work Indent No 17364 (a) Last Date for Clarification up to : **30-01-2025** (b) Last Date for Receipt of Tenders : **10-02-2025** Noon 4.00 PM (c) Opening of Technical Bid Date : **11-02-2025** (d) Opening of Financial Bid Date : **12-02-2025**

GST shall be paid separately as per prevailing Government Order. The increase in GST shall not be paid in the extended period of contract for which the contractor alone is responsible for delay as determined by the authority while granting the extension of time.

DIPR/Gadag/KSMCA/553/2024-25
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
P.W.D. Division, Gadag.

KARNATAKA STATE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING BOARD
No.16, 2nd Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001. PH: 080-22867369
e-mail: cgmksamb@gmail.com Website krishimaratavahini.karnataka.gov.in

Tender No: KSAMB/ACCTS-FD/Tender/AUCTION-72/2024-25 Date: 23.01.2025

e-TENDER CUM e-AUCTION NOTIFICATION

Karnataka State Agricultural Marketing Board, Bengaluru is inviting e-bidding through e-procurement portal from Nationalized Banks/Private Banks for placing of **Rs.45.00 Crores** (Rupees Forty five Crores Only) for One year in Fixed Deposit. The detailed information can be obtained from **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** portal vide Indent No:APMC/2024-25/AUCTION-72 The last date for participation Date: **31.01.2025.**

DIPR/CP/SSC/4546/2024-25
Sd/-
Chief General Manager
KSAMB, Bengaluru.

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office :- PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala
Corporate Identification Number U40109PB2010SGC033813 : Website : www.pspcl.in
(Contact NO. 96461-17606)

E-Tender Enquiry No: 28/MM-I/BMC-335(XIV)/O&M/GHTP/2025 Dated: 21.01.2025

Office of Dy. Chief Engineer, Mechanical Mtc. Circle-I, G.H.T.P, Lehra-Mohabbat, Distt. Bathinda (Punjab)-151111, Email:- se-mmc1-lehra@pspcl.in, contact No. 96461-17606, invites E-Tender for Routine, preventive, breakdown maintenance and overhauling jobs (Mechincal works) of Pressure Parts, Wind Box and Burners, Air Pre-Heaters, SCAPHs, ESPs, Aux. PRDS, Ducts, Dampers & Gates, Coal pipes, Soot Blowers, Safety valves, HP/LP piping and manual valves, Fuel firing system (including fuel oil pump house) etc. of Boilers of 2x210 MW and 2x250 MW BHEL make Units of GHTP, Lehra Mohabat. For detailed NIT & tender Specifications, plese refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 22-01-2025 from 05:00 PM onwards.

NOTE: Corrigendum and addendmum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

GHTP 09/25 76155/12/3839/2023/41059

ನಿರ್ಮಿತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ರಾಯಚೂರು
ಕಡಿಮೆ ವೆಚ್ಚದ ಸಾಮಾಗ್ರಿಗಳ ಹಾಗೂ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕತೆಯ ವರ್ಗಾವಣೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರ
(ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಹುಡ್ಕೊದ ಅನುದಾನತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ)
Sy.No.809(A), Bolmandoddi Road, RAICHUR- 584103,
e-Mail ID:pmnkrcr@gmail.com Project Manager- 8095470150

ಸಂ:ನಿಕೇರಾ:ಠೇವಣಿ: :2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ 20–01–2025

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ (ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ 1 ರಿಂದ 11) ದರ ಪಟ್ಟಿ (ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ–12) ಕರೆಯೋಲೆ

ಕ್ರ ಸಂ	ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದ ವಿವರ	ಇಂಟೆಂಡ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಟೆಂಡರಿಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಇ–ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆಯ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಜಾಲತಾಣದ ವಿಳಾಸ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಿಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ
1	20MM AND 40MM JELLY	NKR/2024-25/IND0001	ರೂ.4,50,95,544/–	04.02.2025 @ 17.30 PM	https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Pre-Bid Meeting Date 25-01-2025 @ 11-00 AM @ NK, Office Raichur
2	CEMENT	NKR/2024-25/IND0002	ರೂ.5,00,83,460/–		
3	STEEL	NKR/2024-25/IND0003	ರೂ.3,34,71,535/–		
4	SAND	NKR/2024-25/IND0004	ರೂ.2,05,90,166/–		
5	RO+UF PLANT	NKR/2024-25/IND0005	ರೂ.1,89,60,045/–		
6	ONLINE UPS AND BATTERIES	NKR/2024-25/IND0006	ರೂ.13,21,458/–		
7	DUAL DESK	NKR/2024-25/IND0007	ರೂ.58,48,222/–		
8	INTERACTIVE SMART BOARD	NKR/2024-25/IND0008	ರೂ.23,00,000/–		
9	SUPPLY OF HIGH MAST POLE	NKR/2024-25/IND0009	ರೂ.71,50,000/–		
10	SUPPLY OF HIGH MAST LED LIGHT	NKR/2024-25/IND0010	ರೂ.62,30,478/–		
11	OUTSOURCE	NKR/2024-25/SE0002	ರೂ.1,25,37,821/–		
12	FIXED DEPOSIT	RATE CARDS / QUOTATIONS	ರೂ.1100–00 ಲಕ್ಷ		Pre-Bid Meeting Date 25-01-2025 @ 11-00 AM @ NK, Office Raichur Regional / Zonal / Head Offices of Banks only shall participate and no individual bank branch shall participate in this Tender

DIP/RCR/679/KSMC&A/680/2024-25

ಸಹಿ/– ಯೋಜನಾ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು
ನಿರ್ಮಿತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ರಾಯಚೂರು

Rumour has it

Causes of the rail track deaths have more to do with deep-rooted malaises

Panic and confusion seem to have triggered the Lucknow-Mumbai Pushpak Express accident in Maharashtra that killed 12 people and injured at least 10 others. Eyewitness accounts talk about the rumour of a fire that led to an alarm chain being pulled and the train coming to a stop. Passengers often choose to get down when their train makes unscheduled stops and that is what happened near Pachora station in Jalgaon district. Those who deboarded on the side of an oncoming train on the adjacent track, the Karnataka Express, were mowed down. Reports talk about a curve that reduced the line of sight of the driver of the oncoming train who, nevertheless, promptly applied the brakes seeing the flashing lights, as in the procedure adopted to stop all other trains when one train stops midsection. The Karnataka Express was speeding and had a braking distance of some 750 m; the Rajdhani needs more than a kilometre to stop. It could have been worse had the brakes not been applied promptly, railway officials have been quoted as saying. Passengers deboarding a train and facing danger is not uncommon either. Auto doors that can be opened and closed only by railway personnel – a feature of the Vande Bharat and Rajdhani trains – may need to be fitted in general trains as well. Such doors come with their own logistical challenges such as a requirement that the door locking system of each bogie matches with the rest, but it may well be worth the cost.

The panic shown by the passengers is a typical response in India and is seen in stampedes. In 2017, a flower vendor on a rail platform bridge at Elphinstone Road station in Mumbai, apparently complained in Marathi of 'her flowers falling', which commuters misunderstood to mean that the bridge was collapsing, leading to a stampede that killed 23 people. Probably, the series of railway accidents in recent times was fresh in the minds of the Pushpak Express passengers and added to the panic. While those accidents, at first glance, were caused by human errors or local faults, they were actually a result of a long-term and unaddressed need for enhancing railway safety. Further, initial media reports quoted railway officials talking about "hot axle" and "brake binding" that may have caused sparks and smoke, which gave rise to fears of a fire, and in turn the alarm chain being pulled. Brake binding happens when a brake is applied by the driver but after its release the brake does not disengage in one or more bogies. The wheels, instead of rolling, would only slide when speed picks up, leading to the emission of sparks and smoke. Brake binding is a case of poor maintenance. An inquiry by the Commissioner of Railway Safety concerned, an independent body of railway experts that does not come under the Railway Ministry, should uncover the true cause of Wednesday's accident.

WHO is right

The U.S. must return to WHO's fold in its own interest

President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw the United States from the World Health Organization (WHO), based on charges of bias, is stunningly short sighted, and deeply concerning to the global health community. Pundits are predicting that this move, if not withdrawn, or reconsidered, may well unleash the butterfly effect – a cascading set of unpredictable consequences arising from even the smallest of changes in a system. Soon after his inauguration, Mr. Trump wasted no time in announcing the beginning of the process of ending the U.S.'s membership of WHO. In language that smacked of petulance, Mr. Trump, as he signed his first batch of executive orders, declared: "The World Health [Organization] ripped us off." The U.S. will now leave the United Nations health agency in 12 months' time and stop all financial contributions to its work. He accused the organisation of mishandling the COVID-19 pandemic, and of being partisan towards China, though the U.S. contributed more to its coffers. The move has not been entirely unexpected: during his previous term as U.S. President, he relentlessly criticised WHO for acting slow and being "owned and controlled by China"; in 2020 he initiated a move to halt funding to WHO, though it was scuppered as his term came to an end.

Why is the withdrawal of the U.S. significant? For starters, Mr. Trump is right – the U.S., which is a founding member of WHO, is also its biggest financial backer, contributing around 18% of its overall funding. Withdrawal of these funds will seriously impact health programmes being implemented across the world, including interventions for HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and the eradication of certain infectious diseases. WHO is also involved in ensuring equity of access to life-saving drugs for people across the world, building stronger health systems, detecting and preventing disease outbreaks. If Mr. Trump could set his petulance aside, it would be clear that global health does not operate in silos, and neither a stern countenance nor physical boundaries can keep pathogens out of one's own geography. If any lessons have been learned at all from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is that no one is safe until everyone is safe, and that collaboration among nations, and open sharing of data and technology are essential to tackle pandemics. WHO has reached out to the U.S., hoping that it will reconsider its decision and engage once again with it. As fantastic as it may sound, medicine is no stranger to miracles of science, and the health community hopes one more will restore the U.S. back to WHO's fold.

India's winding road to '#EndTB'

Swathi Krishna Njarekkattu-valappil

is a public health physician and researcher based in Pune, working in tuberculosis, health policy and systems research

Parth Sharma

is a community physician and public health researcher based in Delhi and is the founder of the public health advocacy organisation, Nivarana

Last year, tuberculosis (TB) emerged, once again, as the leading infectious disease killer globally. The goals, i.e., End TB targets of 90% reduction in TB deaths, 80% reduction in new cases, and zero TB-affected families facing catastrophic costs by 2030, seem to be a distant dream. In 2018, India extended the highest level of political commitment for the cause by pledging to achieve End TB targets on an accelerated timeline by 2025. However, the COVID-19 pandemic was a huge pushback to the efforts.

According to the World Health Organization's Global Tuberculosis Report 2024, India continues to lead in the global TB burden (26% of cases) and is also the hub for drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) and TB deaths. While ambitious policies and initiatives are rolled out from the national level, the ground reality in India needs to be better understood to translate them into effective interventions.

Focus on vulnerable groups

India's National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP) clearly defines the high-risk or vulnerable groups that are at risk of contracting TB and developing adverse outcomes.

Dr. Pavitra Mohan, paediatrician and founder of Basic Healthcare Services, a non-governmental organisation working in south Rajasthan, says, "We get around 1000 persons with TB in our clinics every year and many of them have severe lung damage owing to fine dust inhalation from mining and stone carving. They are at risk for TB due to contributory factors like silicosis, undernutrition, overcrowding, and uncontrolled co-morbidities like diabetes."

Migrant workers also have an added disadvantage of poor access to health-care facilities. Dr. Mohan says, "They prefer to go back to their native place if they fall ill and hence it is not easy for the healthcare delivery system also to keep track of their treatment."

While a lot of attention is being paid to tackling undernutrition among persons with TB (pwTB), a host of other contributory factors in each geography needs to be addressed, requiring multisectoral action.

TB is a curable disease with effective and free drugs from NTEP. A significant achievement for India is the treatment initiation in more than 95% of notified cases. This was possible, over the years, by establishing an exclusive procurement and supply chain system for the NTEP.

The chances of ending TB by 2025 appear bleak, but there is some hope

However, in 2023, there was a country-wide break in the supply chain – it still continues in many parts. Shortage of key drugs in the centres, many of which are unavailable in the open market, left the beneficiaries and their families in a struggle. Nandita Venkatesan, data journalist and two-time TB survivor, says, "It takes many a mile for pwTB to reach the finishing line of treatment combating a wide range of side effects. Shortage of such critical medicines disrupts the treatment, risking resistance to antibiotics and poor disease outcomes. Moreover, having to buy drugs from outside leads to catastrophic health expenses."

On extrapulmonary TB

Extrapulmonary TB (EP-TB) affects any organ of the body – lymph nodes, the kidneys, the brain, the spinal cord, bones, joints, and skin. However, the NTEP's main focus has been on pulmonary TB affecting the lung, as it is most common and transmissible.

The share of EP-TB is about 24% of the notified cases, but with wide geographical variations. It is often missed/delayed from being diagnosed due to symptoms which are vague and mimic other diseases. Dr. Deepak Chandra Badhani, a surgeon working in rural Chhattisgarh, says, "Doctors in Indian settings should have a high index of suspicion for TB in the cases they see. Proper history taking, thorough clinical examination and simple tests such as pus staining from a non-healing ulcer can help diagnose TB. But sadly, we wait for expensive, advanced tests just to start treatment and depend heavily on specialists to diagnose, leading to substantial delays and advanced disease." He lays emphasis on the training of general practitioners to pick up EP-TB at the earliest and of the need to sensitise frontline workers and integrating EP-TB into their screening algorithms.

A study by Daniels and colleagues in Mumbai shows that only 35% of private practitioners and 75% of government doctors could correctly diagnose a patient presenting with classical symptoms of TB. Dr. Vasundhara Rangaswamy, a microbiologist working in rural Chhattisgarh, says the reluctance to notify the disease further impacts diagnosis as private practitioners prescribe antibiotics and refer without any diagnostic tests.

TB is an area where guidelines are updated quite frequently. However, studies done by Shah and colleagues and also Hiremath and colleagues show that a shortage of adequately trained human resources is a major challenge affecting implementation of the NTEP. Dr. Rangaswamy says, "Molecular tests are expensive and often take time to access as they are mostly available only at district level. Results take time due to the heavy workload and shortage of trained staff . In effect, patients have to travel and incur more expenses."

Dr. Mohan says, "The CBNAAT [Cartridge-based Nucleic Acid Amplification Testing] and Truenat machines are not available at many places, [as they are] mostly placed at [the] district level. And very often, when a machine is available, the lab technician will not be there and if the lab technician is there, cartridge supply for the test would not be there." The staff pattern within the NTEP does not meet the growing demands, with most now having more work.

What needs to be done

Ownership at all levels is essential to make programmes work. Idukki district in Kerala collaborated with Kudumbashree, one of the largest women's self-help networks in the world, for their TB elimination efforts. This resulted in widespread community participation and advocacy by government/leadership levels created a huge impact. "It helped us achieve our targets and sustain the activities," says Dr. Cency B., former District TB Officer of Idukki district, and current Assistant Director, Kerala Health Services.

She says, "Advocacy by political leadership helps in providing platforms for cross learning from best practices across geographies. But programme implementers will have to go beyond their routine work scope to achieve this."

While the chances of ending TB by 2025 look bleak, there is some hope. India's case notification reached the highest level and deaths due to TB declined by 24% as compared to 2015, which is way more than the global decline.

The administrative levels of the NTEP are designed to adapt to the innumerable contextual challenges. New bodies of knowledge from different parts of the world need to be considered. Vietnam, a high burden country, recently showed the effective use of active case finding for TB (advocated for high-risk groups) among the general population, so that targeted interventions could work better. Perhaps India too needs to restructure and redefine its many conventional frameworks, to combat this deadly disease.

A grey birthday for the Election Commission of India

Praveen Chakravarty

is the Chairman of Professionals' and the Data Analytics wings of the Congress party

"The executive Government is instructing or managing things in such a manner that those people who do not belong to them either racially, culturally or linguistically, are being excluded from being brought on the electoral rolls. Electoral rolls are a most fundamental thing in a democracy... Independence of elections and avoidance of any interference by the executive should be regarded as a fundamental right," said Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in June 1949 in the Constituent Assembly while introducing the Constitutional provision to set up the Election Commission of India (ECI). All of India's founding leaders agreed with this unanimously. Tomorrow (January 25) is the 75th anniversary of the birth of the ECI – also celebrated as National Voters Day (January 25). Sadly, India's founding leaders will feel let-down by the ECI and not deem it to be a happy 75th birthday.

The case of Maharashtra

Dr. Ambedkar was prescient in his warnings about electoral roll manipulation by the executive. While he was more concerned about exclusion of voters through identity discrimination, government interference in electoral rolls can also be through a process of mass inclusion of voters to tilt an election – as seen in the recently held Maharashtra State elections.

The ECI enrolled 9.7 crore voters for the 2024 Maharashtra State election. The Narendra Modi government's Ministry of Health report estimated the entire adult population of Maharashtra (18-plus years), in 2024, as 9.54 crore. The ECI, by its own admission, registered 16 lakh more voters than the official estimate of the total adult population. Even if one were to accept that the government's estimate is only a projection, and can vary, it still implies that nearly 100% or more of all the adults in Maharashtra were registered as voters for the State election. This is very strange because the ECI neither enrolled nearly all adults as voters for the Maharashtra Lok Sabha election held just six months earlier, nor ever before in any of the other large States. Then, how were more people than the entire estimated adult population of Maharashtra enrolled as voters only for the State election?

The sanctity of electoral rolls is the foundation of India's electoral democracy; the Election Commission of India has nothing to celebrate on the anniversary of its founding day

Mass enrolment in just months

This is because 48 lakh people were registered as new voters in just six months between the Lok Sabha and the State elections. For context, between 2019 to 2024, only 32 lakh new voters were enrolled. In other words, 50% more people were enrolled as voters in just six months *vis-à-vis* the previous five-year period. What led to this sudden, and intriguing, rush by Maharashtrians to register and vote in the State election alone?

Clues emerge upon careful analysis of the outcome. The BJP-led Mahayuti alliance gained 72 lakh more votes in the State election compared to the Lok Sabha election. One would logically presume that this gain by the BJP alliance was largely due to voters that voted for the Congress-led Maha Vikas Aghadi alliance in the Lok Sabha election who then shifted allegiance to the BJP alliance for the state election. But that is not the case. Only 24 lakh such voters moved away from the Congress alliance between the two elections. So, where did the BJP alliance get its remaining 48 lakh (72 lakh - 24 lakh) votes from for the State election?

It is not even the case that the BJP alliance got its remaining votes from other parties and independents, since this group too gained more votes in the State versus Lok Sabha election. It is then rational to impute that 48 lakh people who may not have voted in the Lok Sabha election, enrolled themselves as new voters for the State election and voted for the BJP alliance.

Astonishingly, the ECI has confirmed officially that it enrolled the exact same number, i.e., 48 lakh people, as new voters for the Maharashtra election. Is this a miraculous coincidence, a case of divine intervention or executive interference, as Dr. Ambedkar had warned 75 years ago?

What explains the sudden rush of new voters in six months for the State election? Are they real voters? Or are they ghosts? Were their documents verified when they were enrolled as voters? How is it that all the new voters enrolled seem to have voted for just one alliance?

Regardless of one's political affiliations, to a rational mind, it is amply evident that there is something amiss with the electoral rolls in the Maharashtra election. Perhaps, there are sincere answers to these questions. If so, is it not logical to expect the ECI to release all the data in the public domain and issue clarifications in a transparent manner? But the ECI is conspicuously silent and arrogantly dismissive of these questions. A counter, which includes one by the Chief Election Commissioner, is that if there was such a large-scale addition of dubious or ghost voters, why were the Opposition parties with their war-rooms, not alert enough to catch this in time? This is a duplicitous way to absolve the ECI using the line of a political party's organisational inefficiencies.

It is unfair and illegal to add vast numbers of dubious voters to influence an election and its outcome. It is the ECI's constitutional responsibility to run a fair election. This is why India's founding leaders entrusted an independent ECI with the responsibility of preserving India's electoral sanctity and not to be reliant on political parties.

Use Aadhaar

The Maharashtra incident reveals the importance of using Aadhaar to 'unghost' and de-duplicate electoral rolls and use its biometric verification for voting. Of course, not even a single eligible citizen should be denied his vote, and an appropriate backup process can be evolved for those whose biometric verifications fail. The sanctity of electoral rolls is of supreme importance and is the foundation of India's electoral democracy. Aadhaar verification of electoral rolls and voting is the birthday cake that the ECI must be given to preserve and strengthen India's electoral democracy. It is an idea that even Dr. Ambedkar and other founding leaders may approve of.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Online 'distractions'

At last, the Governor of Tamil Nadu may be right in one area (Tamil Nadu page, "Mobile phones and other screens are distractions, says Governor", January 23). Perhaps he meant it in a general sense, but it is worth talking about the recent move made by Sweden in a related area. In 2009, Sweden replaced books with computers. But in 2024-25, it has allocated €104 million to reverse this move. The country is bringing back printed textbooks after concerns about digital learning and its impact on student focus and skills. In a world where tech is made out to be king in every sphere, this is a very significant move that needs study.

V. Subramaniam,
Chennai

Rail passenger safety

The Indian Railways must focus on prioritising passenger safety by implementing robust measures and adopting cutting-edge technologies. With vast numbers of people relying on trains for transportation across the country, it is essential to safeguard them from catastrophes (Page 1, January 23).

Sathishkumar B.,
Vellore, Tamil Nadu

Despite all the technological advancements, there is no improvement in safety systems. A proper alerting system connecting all compartments is still a distant dream. Our trains are overcrowded and overloaded and tickets are issued in excess than the capacity. The Indian Railways should realise that it serves the nation and its motto should be on 'safety first' and not money.

Balasubramaniam Pavani,
Secunderabad

Policing at a crossroads

The repeated intervention of the higher judiciary in the handling of sensitive cases in Tamil Nadu signals a troubling lack of faith in Tamil Nadu's law enforcement. The recent case of assault in a university campus in the city, and its handling, underscores the perceived inability of the State police to deal with such matters effectively. The judiciary's strong comments to the government highlight the urgency of systemic reform. This erosion of trust in the State police jeopardises public confidence. The government needs to act decisively to improve professionalism, and ensure gender sensitivity and accountability within the force. Restoring trust in law enforcement is critical to ensuring justice, public safety, and the state's credibility in maintaining law and order.

Gopalaswamy J.,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name.

Is poverty being underestimated in India?

P.C. Mohanan

Former member of the National Statistical Commission

N.R. Bhanumurthy

Director of the Madras School of Economics

PARLEY

Last month, the government released a factsheet on the 2023-24 Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES), which recorded a decline in poverty in urban and rural areas. Over the last few years, policymakers and academics have debated the issues of incomparable data sets, the unavailability of data, and the definition of an adequate consumption basket to determine a poverty line. Is poverty being underestimated in India? P.C. Mohanan and N.R. Bhanumurthy discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Samreen Wani**. Edited excerpts:

How do you define poverty? Is poverty being underestimated in India?

P.C. Mohanan: We had a stable definition of poverty from the late 1970s to 2005. We started with the expenditure required for sustaining a minimum calorie diet and that used to be updated every five years using the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) data. When the NSSO started the whole exercise, its estimates of private expenditure and those of the National Accounts were very similar, so there was no controversy. But over the years, their estimates diverged so much that questions came up about the accuracy of the NSS data.

Then, the government appointed the Tendulkar Committee. At the same time, the NSSO also started experimenting with different methodologies to improve the collection of consumption expenditure and that meant using different recall periods. (A recall period is when a respondent is asked to recall their consumption expenditure over a specific time period.) After 2011-12, the government neither had official poverty estimates nor conducted a survey. People started using alternative estimates of expenditure and later, the multidimensional poverty index was used. So, using certain data sets, there have been claims that poverty has drastically come down. But that is questionable because it depends on the poverty line and the data.

N.R. Bhanumurthy: In the last two decades, the number of people below the poverty line has drastically come down, whatever line you take. But the delta between the two decades (the change in poverty estimation over a period of time) is very large for many reasons such as high GDP growth, increase in public expenditures through a number of flagship programmes introduced by the Union and State governments, and an improved public delivery system. In addition, we still have the National Food Security Act, which covers nearly 80 crore people. So, saying that people still live in

A beggar in Kozhikode city. K. RAGESH

extreme poverty would be counter-intuitive, if that is happening.

Initially, while defining poverty, we were talking about calorie consumption alone. Now, the definition has been broadened. And that is the way to go. If you use the Tendulkar line or the Rangarajan line, you might get different numbers, but the change between two rounds in both the methods would be more or less the same and close to 17% or 18%. Dr. Rangarajan himself estimated that poverty was close to 10% based on the 2022-23 survey. With the recent factsheet, I wouldn't be surprised if poverty would have come down further to single digits.

What are your concerns with the HCES data?

PCM: Over the years, there has been a divergence between the NSSO per capita household consumption expenditure data and those from the National Accounts. Some of the issues were because of the recall period. The NSSO started experimenting with different recall periods. While it set a seven-day recall period for certain items, it set a 30-day period for others. But these estimates then could not be compared with previous consumption estimates, which had different recall periods. We had the uniform reference period (URP), where we had 30 days of recall for all items, and the mixed reference period (MRP) using 30 days (food) and 365 days (for other goods). Tendulkar estimated poverty based on MRP. Then we had the modified mixed reference period (MMRP) – seven days for food items along with 30 days and 365 days for other items. This gives you a higher estimate of expenditure because your recall is better. If you use the higher expenditure distribution on a lower poverty line, which is what many researchers have done, naturally your poverty goes down. Rangarajan had suggested a different methodology in his committee report, but the government did not accept that. In the last two years, the NSSO has made a further modification

> Very few people have tried to create a new poverty line for the new kind of methodology that the NSSO is following. This is a major gap.
> P.C. MOHANAN

by visiting households in three sittings instead of one. This way, data reporting is better because respondents get more time and can recall better. The current methodology will still give us higher expenditure. But if you use this data on the older poverty line, your estimate will come down. Very few people have tried to create a new poverty line for the NSSO's new methodology. This is a major gap.

NRB: We need to improve the methodology. We cannot go with a URP because some expenditures would not have been made in the last seven days or the last month. Right now we are looking at a slightly broader aspect of consumption. If you look at the factsheet, food articles constitute less than 50% of the total consumption basket. So, it shows that we are not spending on food items alone and are looking at other services required for the household. In that sense, there is a need for us to re-examine the old methodology. The present criticism is with the estimate that suggests a decline in poverty by over 17% between two rounds. I would say that whatever poverty line we use, the decline in the number of poor between 2011-12 and 2023-24 would be closer to 17% or more.

What do we know about poverty in rural and urban regions?

PCM: The data show that the rural-urban differential in consumption is actually coming down. Rural areas are doing better. But the idea of a rural area that we have is based on the 2011 Census, so a significant portion of the rural areas is basically urban or peri-urban in character. Earlier, food expenditure used to be the major component of rural consumption patterns. But the 2022-23 data show that a substantial number of items are the same in urban and rural areas now, which means rural consumption has actually changed in terms of diversity. We need to put a statistical base in place, including a Census, so we know what is rural and urban.

NRB: There should be clear-cut separation of what is rural and urban. If we decide to shift peri-urban to urban areas, I think urban poverty would have declined much faster than the preliminary estimates we have now. In any case, at the aggregate, we see a sharp fall in the number of poor, but in terms of consumption, we have to look at public policy interventions.

Where do you stand on an upward revision of the poverty line in India?

PCM: A research paper by the Foundation for Agrarian Studies used the Rangarajan methodology on the 2022-23 HCES data. They estimated around 25% poverty. I'm not clear that by just updating a poverty line in that fashion, we would have a definite estimation. But we need to have some agreement on a methodology and the government needs to stand behind that. That is unlikely to happen.

NRB: With the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) laying down $2.15/day as a poverty line, even their estimates suggest poverty was just about 12.9% in 2019. So, I don't agree with the 25% figure that Dr. Mohanan is quoting. NITI Aayog's estimates also don't really support that number. However, I agree with him that we need to have a clear-cut methodology for a poverty line estimation, but at the same time we need to stick to a single poverty line.

There have been some criticisms against Niti Aayog's multidimensional poverty index. UNDP's index has 10 indicators and India's index has 12. Is this criticism valid?

NRB: The UNDP has one methodology for all countries. It is only a framework that suggests what needs to be part of your consumption basket. But it is left to the countries to customise that methodology. Broadening that basket is the right way to do it. We have rightly added bank accounts and maternal health to the 10 indicators that the UNDP includes in its index.

PCM: I am not sure about that because multidimensional poverty tells you whether you are deprived of that particular indicator or not. Now there are many indicators which may not be applicable to a household. When you don't have a child, all those indicators related to a child are not relevant, so that household is not deprived of those things. Many of the indicators actually don't go down. Once you have access to electricity, a bank account, etc., you don't get deprived of those indicators in future. This index will never go up. Poverty estimates will continue to stay low because of the way the indicators have been selected. There is no scope for getting deprived in future. We don't measure income vulnerability and we need to do that.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

The importance of the critical review

Well written critical reviews, more than the positive ones, add to the treasury of anecdotes and folklore that nourish a literary community

G. Sampath

The lit fest season is here, and like some migratory birds seen only in winter, books and authors are enjoying more conversational space, beyond the editorial equivalent of a wildlife sanctuary – the reviews section.

A quarter century ago, when I got my first byline as a book critic, almost every respectable newspaper and magazine had at least one weekly page, if not more, devoted to book reviews. There was this exotic species of journalist known as 'Books Editor', now sadly nearly extinct, whose sole remit was to read books, commission reviews, and attend launches. They would be courted by publishers in the morning, authors in the afternoon, and colleagues at all times of the day – begging to borrow a book from the growing pile of new titles on their desks.

The books page had no overt links to politics or business, nor was it comparable to the op-ed pages in terms of influence. Yet it was closely followed, and drew attention disproportionate to its acknowledged importance in the publication's scheme of things editorially, commercially, or budget-wise. It was seen as adding intellectual heft to the publication's brand identity.

Over the years, a number of factors have combined to erode the prominence and space that books commanded, with *The Hindu* being one of the exceptions. The first was a general sense that people are spending less time consuming books. Another was the exit of many small, independent publishing houses that encouraged unusual, local talent. Lastly, a pronounced tilt toward commercial non-fiction and market-tested genre fiction on the part of the big publishers left little scope for controversial works that could spark elaborate debates. At the same time, authors (and not just publishers) began to think of a review as a publicity prop rather than as a journalistic form with its own literary attributes.

One outcome of all this was that the negative review, especially the one where the reviewer would, with justification, take the author to the cleaners, has become rare. The norm today is the favourable review. If the book is bad, the reviewer either gives a neutral synopsis of the book or does a balancing act by sandwiching the criticism between praise – this way the reader is forewarned, the writer gets blurb-worthy lines, and the reviewer is seen as 'objective'.

But what I have learned over years of reviewing is that being objective is not the same as being fair. Those who confused the two often became susceptible to what the legendary film critic Pauline Kael termed "saphead objectivity". A fair response to a terrible book is a proper pasting, and there is nothing objective about it. But that's more likely in a literary culture where writers, critics, and publishers are attuned to a robust tradition of dishing it out as well as taking it on the chin and readers appreciate the exchange, as happened during my stint as books editor with a now-defunct daily.

I had commissioned the review of a novel to a freelancer who, I learnt only later, had some history with the novelist. When the review came in, I was stunned by how harsh it was. I had my doubts, but there was deadline pressure, and I decided to back the reviewer's judgment. We went with it. The writer, an influential figure, did not like it. But he was quick to share it on Facebook. The terrible (for him) review garnered extensive publicity for the book.

But not all authors are sporting when it comes to negative reviews. Many take it personally. Though painful to the writer, well written critical reviews, more than the positive ones, add to the treasury of anecdotes and folklore that nourish a literary community. Not too long ago, the sort of banter between writers and critics we now witness at lit fest panels used to unfold on the books pages of newspapers. If books sections are to reclaim something of their erstwhile glory days, fair yet critical reviews would certainly help.

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK

An Aadhaar card for a tree

Workers install a plate with a QR code on a Chinar tree at the Nishat Bagh on the banks of the Dal lake in Srinagar. Under the 'Digital Tree Aadhaar' conservation initiative, Chinar trees, which are a cultural symbol of Jammu and Kashmir and are facing threats due to urbanisation, are being provided with unqiue identification codes. Scanning the QR code will give a person information about the tree's geographical location, health, and growing patterns. IMRAN NISSAR

FROM THE ARCHIVES — The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JANUARY 24, 1975

All-India institute of epigraphy

Dharwar, Jan. 23: The need for the establishment of an all-India institute of epigraphy was stressed here yesterday by the Union Minister of State for Law and Company Affairs, Dr Sarojini Mahishi.

Inaugurating the first annual Congress of the Epigraphical Society of India the Minister said the establishment of a co-ordinating body to undertake a thorough survey of all inscriptions in the country before they are damaged or lost was necessary since the reconstruction of Indian history could not be made without a scientific study of all inscriptions by competent scholars. She also recalled the contribution made by the epigraphy branch of the Archaeological Survey of India and certain State departments and universities towards the advancement of epigraphical research.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JANUARY 24, 1925

Monkey gland traffic

A large number of the unfortunate monkeys destined for thyroid gland treatment are still cooped up in their wooden crates at Crawford Market awaiting shipment. They are to be taken on board a German ship in the course of a few days, their ultimate destination being Burmingham.

From Page One

‘Fire rumour’ by tea seller triggered tragedy

In recovery: An injured passenger being treated at a hospital in Jalgaon district on Thursday. PTI

“The family of one of the deceased could not identify the decapitated body, and on Thursday, another member of the family identified the body and the count came down to 12,” said Jalgaon Medical Superintendent Vijay Gaikwad.

Among the 12 deceased, the administration has identified 11 bodies and handed over nine of them to their families. Among the 10 injured, two have spine injuries. Among the 12 deceased, seven are from Nepal and the rest from Uttar Pradesh.

Speaking to reporters in Pune, Mr. Pawar said, “A tea seller from the pantry shouted about a fire having broken out in a coach.” Two passengers from Shravasti in Uttar Pradesh heard it and conveyed the false alarm to others, leading to confusion and panic in their general coach and the adjoining one.”

When the train halted, people started getting down and got run over by the Karnataka Express coming from the other side.

‘Iron Age began in 4th millennium BCE in T.N.’

Professor Emeritus in South Asian Archaeology in Cambridge University Dilip Kumar Chakrabarti said this discovery, for the first time in the world, proved that the usage of smelted iron could go back to the middle of the third millennium BCE. “It is not merely of Indian significance, but also in the context of the archaeology of the world,” he said.

Former Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India Rakesh Tewari said: “Tamil Nadu is one of those areas which is providing evidence for an independent culture having interaction with other areas and distinctive technologies also. I hope this type of research will continue in this part of the country and other parts will also take inspiration from them.”

Multiple labs

Though results were obtained a year ago, the findings went through different research methods in multiple labs and were sent eventually to archaeological experts for their validation so that the results were seen in the light of academic rigour, Commissioner of Archaeology T. Udhayachandran told *The Hindu*.

Both Accelarator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) and Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) were adopted, he said. Samples were sent to Beta Analytic Testing Laboratory in the U.S.A., Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences in Lucknow and Physical Research Laboratory in Ahmedabad to get the dating results.

Explaining the significance of the fresh findings of the antiquity of iron in the Indian subcontinent from sites in Tamil Nadu, Mr. Udhayachandran said: “Compared to other metals, you need to have higher temperature to smelt iron about 1,200 to 1,400 degrees Celsius. You need superior technology. It shows people in Tamil land had mastered the skill even some 5300 years ago.”

Played vital role

The usage of iron played an important role in the history of humankind, as it was used to make tools for agriculture and that eventually led to more trade and eventually to formation of State, he contended. “Iron technology is the most important finding in the evolution of mankind,” he said.

The earlier excavations at Sivagalai, Adichanallur, Mayiladumparai, Kilnamandi and Mangadu indicated the date falls between 2500 BCE and 3000 BCE as the introduction of iron in south India, particularly in Tamil Nadu. When cultural zones located north of Vindhyas experienced the Copper Age, the region south of Vindhyas might have entered into the Iron Age due to the limited availability of commercially exploitable copper ore, the report said.

“Thus, the Copper Age of north India and the Iron Age of south India are probably contemporary,” the report contended. Based on the availability of AMS14C and OSL dates ranging between 2427 BCE and 3345 BCE for the samples recovered from the recent excavations, it said: “We may securely place the introduction of iron in India, particularly in Tamil Nadu, in the early part of 4th millennium BCE.”

During the occasion, Mr. Stalin also laid the foundation stone for establishing musuems at Keeladi and Gangaikondacholapuram. Ministers Duraimurugan, Thangam Thennarasu and E.V. Velu; Chief Secretary N. Muruganandam and senior officials were among the participants.

Misri to visit Beijing as India, China look to revive dialogue

Foreign Secretary will meet Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Sun Weidong and discuss resumption of direct flights between the two countries, visas, and the Mansarovar yatra; trade issues and concerns over hydropower project may also come up

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri will travel to Beijing on Sunday, in another indication that India and China are reviving all dialogue mechanisms after the four-year break over the military stand-off at the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

The meeting follows the October 21 agreement to end the stalemate at the LAC, which was ratified by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping during a summit in Russia, followed by meetings between the Foreign Ministers and the Defence Ministers of the two countries.

Mr. Misri, who served as India’s Ambassador to Beijing (2019-2021) and Deputy National Security Adviser (2021-2024), will meet Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Sun Weidong, who was his counterpart as Chinese Ambassador to India (2019-2022).

Vikram Misri during an event in Thailand in December 2024. China’s Vice-Foreign Minister Sun Weidong, right, was present. AFP

Among issues expected to be discussed are the resumption of direct flights between India and China, which remain suspended since the pandemic; issuance of visas particularly for businesspersons and journalists; ironing out trade issues; and arrangements for the resumption of the Mansarovar Yatra for pilgrims.

“The resumption of this bilateral mechanism flows from the agreement at the leadership level to discuss the next steps for India-China relations, including in the political, economic, and people-to-people domains,” the External Affairs Ministry said in a statement, indicating that the talks are part of the revival of regular dialogue.

The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has not commented on the visit thus far. On Tuesday, the Ministry spokesperson had said that India and China must “deliver” on the understandings reached between Mr. Xi and Mr. Modi.

Mr. Misri will be in Beijing on January 26 and 27. He will leave after the Republic Day parade in New Delhi, officials said.

The Foreign Secretary’s visit comes just before the Chinese New Year holidays that begin on January 28. Chinese Ambassador to India Xu Feihong is already in Beijing, understood to be in preparation for the visit.

At a reception for the New Year in Delhi this week, Chinese Charge d’Affaires Wang Lei said India and China would hold “dozens” of celebratory events to mark the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and India.

He said that India-China economic exchanges had grown 2% in the past year, with trade figures reaching $126.6 billion in the first 11 months of 2024 and 2,80,000 visas being issued by China during the year.

Considerable tensions

However, the two sides have also faced considerable tensions over economic and visa issues, with recent reports suggesting that Chinese manufacturers were withholding technology and exports to India, including for Tunnel Boring Machines manufactured in China and Germany. Beijing has also been asking New Delhi to issue more visas and facilitate travel links.

Despite a declaration after a meeting between Mr. Jaishankar and Mr. Wang in November 2024 over resumption of visas, flights, and the Mansarovar Yatra for pilgrims, there has been little movement on the ground on these issues thus far.

In addition, a Chinese hydropower project on the upper riparian area of the Brahmaputra (Yarlung Zangpo in Tibet) has caused concern about flooding downstream.

“We must convey that any reset in ties would require a lot of hard work because accumulated anxieties remain, both on border issues as well as economic issues,” former Ambassador to China (2014-2016) Ashok Kantha told *The Hindu*.

CEC cautions against fake narratives that erode trust

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar on Thursday sounded a note of caution against “fake narratives” that erode trust in the electoral process.

Addressing a two-day international conference of Election Management Bodies (EMB), Mr. Kumar said that such narratives are timed to strike at the vitals of the electoral process.

The conference is being held in the national capital on January 23-24, ahead of National Voters Day on January 25.

Nearly 30 representatives from the EMBs of 13 countries (Bhutan, Georgia, Namibia, Uzbekistan, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Ireland, Mauritius, the Philippines, Russia, Tunisia, and Nepal) are participating in the conference.

The CEC also emphasised the critical role of technology and digital innovations in enhancing efficiency, transparency and voter confidence. He, however, cautioned that while technology offers significant opportunities, it also brings challenges.

Will continue to support BJP: Manipur JD(U) MLA

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Muhammad Abdul Nasir, Manipur’s lone Janata Dal (United) MLA, said on Thursday that he would continue to support the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led government in the State.

He affirmed his support a day after Kshetrimayum Biren Singh, the JD(U)‘s former State president, wrote to Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla announcing the withdrawal of support to the government headed by Chief Minister Nongthombam Biren Singh.

The JD(U)’s central leadership sacked the State president hours after his “withdrawal” letter went viral.

Mr. Nasir met JD(U) working president Sanjay Jha and issued a video statement, dissociating himself from the content of the former State unit president’s letter.

Budget must provide relief from rising prices, says Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Jairam Ramesh

Unemployment and inflation resulting from the “wrong policies” of the Narendra Modi government had made life extremely difficult for lower and middle-class families, and the country now needed a budget that provided relief from rising prices, the Congress said on Thursday.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is scheduled to present the Union Budget on February 1.

Sharing a media report on his X handle, Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh claimed that the “back-breaking inflation in the last 10 years has emptied the pockets of the common people”.

“The Modani [Modi-Adani] government has only taken care of its rich friends in the last ten years. Ever-increasing unemployment and inflation due to wrong policies of the government have made life extremely difficult for lower and middle-class families,” Mr. Ramesh said in a post on X.

The prices of milk, flour, pulses, petrol, diesel and vegetables were “skyrocketing,” he said.

“The burden of EMIs and daily needs is increasing on every household. The country now needs a Budget that provides relief from inflation!” Mr. Ramesh added.

The Congress leader asked if the government took any concrete steps after listening to the problems of the people.

Court refuses to order FIR against Delhi Art Gallery over display of Husain’s paintings

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

M.F. Husain

A Delhi court on Thursday refused to order the police to file an FIR against the Delhi Art Gallery (DAG) for displaying ‘objectionable’ paintings by M.F Husain. It said the complainant, Delhi-based advocate Amita Sachdeva, already had in her possession all the evidence required to prove her allegations.

Judicial Magistrate First Class Sahil Monga of the Patiala House Court said: “In the present case, all the facts and circumstances of the case are within the knowledge of the complainant. CCTV footage of Delhi Art Gallery, and the paintings in question have already been seized. Hence, no further investigation and collection of evidence are required on the part of the investigating agency at this stage.”

The court added that if the FIR would be required at the later stage, then Section 225 of the BNSS could be resorted to.

According to the lawyer-petitioner, when she visited the DAG last December, she photographed the ‘offensive’ paintings. She approached the police to lodge a formal complaint despite which no FIR was filed and the paintings were removed during her subsequent visit. The gallery officials denied that they displayed the said artworks.

The lawyer’s plea had sought an FIR under Section 299 of the BNS (deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) to be registered against DAG owners.

Deny wrongdoing

Reacting to the allegations, the DAG authorities said they valued artistic freedom and denied any wrongdoing as alleged by the complainant ‘who has publicly claimed to be principally driven by a religious agenda’.

Ms. Sachdeva’s X profile says she will pursue legal action against anyone who insults *Sanatan Dharma*.

According to the organisers, they started an exhibition showcasing collection of arts of Husain last October. The exhibition brought together nearly hundred of his works, including paintings that explored the idea of nationhood, portraits.

MDL-TKMS bid for P-75I submarine tender clears technical evaluation

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

The compliance checks of the two bids received were completed in June last year as part of the field evaluation trials. FILE PHOTO

The multi-billion dollar deal for six advanced conventional submarines under project-75I has crossed a major milestone with the bid by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai, and Germany’s TKMS (Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems) having cleared the technical evaluation conducted by the Defence Ministry. The bid by Larsen & Toubro along with Navantia of Spain has not cleared the evaluation.

The benchmarked price of ₹43,000 crore for the deal was set a decade ago, and given the technological upgrades since and factoring in the inflation and currency fluctuations, the final cost is expected to see a major upward revision.

“MDL confirms that the commercial bid submitted by MDL has been opened by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) for further processing,” the MDL said on Thursday as per requirements of the market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India.

The compliance checks of the two bids received were completed in June last year as part of the Field Evaluation Trials (FET) and the reports were since were under scrutiny in the Ministry. The bids were opened last week and the bid by MDL-TKMS was declared technically complaint, according to official sources. “The commercial negotiations will now commence based on the price quoted in the bid submitted,” a source stated.

The Request For Proposal (RFP) issued by the Navy for the programme detailing the specifications states that the first submarine should have indigenous content (IC) of 45% which should up to 60% for the sixth and last submarine. The key determinant, however, to qualify for P-75I is the Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) module, which enhances the endurance and stealth of a submarine. The AIP module became the real determinant for qualifying the technical criteria.

The design offered by TKMS, in partnership with MDL, is based on its highly successful Class 214 submarine and Class 212CD and has an operationally proven AIP module. Navantia has offered a submarine based on its new S80 class of submarines, the first of which was launched in 2021 and commissioned into the Spanish Navy as S-81 ‘Isaac Peral’ in 2023.

Indian Navy finishes survey of Mauritius

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Indian Navy’s *INS Sarvekshak* completed the final phase of the hydrographic survey of Mauritius covering an extensive area of over 25,000 square nautical miles. The fair sheet of the survey, along with newly prepared nautical charts, were formally handed over to President Dharambeer Gokhool on Thursday.

“The creation of a new nautical chart will enable Mauritius to develop its maritime infrastructure, resource management and coastal development planning. It reflects the enduring partnership between India and Mauritius in fostering maritime development and regional cooperation,” the Navy said.

APPEAL

Nusrat Faria Mimi 7 years old daughter of Md Dalim Hossain is admitted Manipal Hospitals, Sarjapur Road is diagnosed to be suffering from Mediastinal mass in the superior Mediastinum just to the left of Aortic Arch. She requires to undergo Mediastinal mass excision operation at the earliest. The estimated cost of the surgery is **Rs. 4,00,000/-**.

Kindly send donation however small by Cheque/ D.D/M.O favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Nusrat Faria Mimi. **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848,** Mobile: **9884607377,** Email: **savepoorlives@gmail.com**. Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

Midway through campaign, AAP wakes up to issue of joblessness

Party's poll rallies highlight people's complaints on unemployment; its 2022 'Rozgar Budget' promising 20 lakh jobs was a non-starter while its job portal has been on ice for two years; no job fairs held recently; leaders blame turf war with L-G

NEWS ANALYSIS

Nikhil M. Babu
NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party's narrative on the critical issue of jobs has undergone a drastic transformation ahead of the Delhi Assembly election, with the party releasing a video message on Thursday about the serious unemployment problem in Delhi and highlighting the crisis in poll rallies all week.

This is the same party, however, that has spent the past few years claiming that "we know how to give employment" and "we have given 10 lakh jobs in Delhi", promoting its record in poll campaigns across multiple States, including in Punjab in 2022.

In the nine poll rallies he has addressed this week, AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal said the unemployment crisis would be his "topmost" priority if the party comes back to power in the capital. "This time, my biggest focus will be on jobs, employment. Our children do not have jobs. Our children are educated, but are sitting at home," Mr. Kejriwal said at an election rally in Patparganj on Wednesday night.

AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal campaigns for the party candidate from Trilokpuri, Anjana Parcha, in Delhi. ANI

The AAP's earlier claims of giving 10 lakh or even 12 lakh jobs in Delhi have been missing from Mr. Kejriwal's poll speeches so far, except for a brief mention in a short video message on Thursday.

Party insiders say they are highlighting the issues after feedback from the ground that unemployment is an important issue in people's minds.

In 2022, the AAP government in Delhi had named its annual Budget the "Rozgar Budget", using the Hindi word for employment, and promised to create 20 lakh jobs over the next five years. Almost all the projects announced under the Rozgar Budget remain non-starters, including a job portal Rozgar Bazaar 2.0.

Rozgar portal

Previous claims that 12 lakh jobs have been provided have included 10 lakh jobs supposedly generated through the Rozgar Bazaar, where private companies or individuals could post job openings.

A Right to Information request filed by *The Hindu* in 2023, however, showed that the Employment Department did not have any data on the number of people who got jobs through the portal.

In its response to the RTI request, the government spokesperson admitted for the first time that it had arrived at the publicised figure of 10 lakh jobs on the basis of "sample surveys" from employers, and had no hard data to back up its claim. The Rozgar Bazaar portal has not been working for close to two years.

The Delhi government has not been holding any job fairs, as issues were raised about money spent on previous fairs, officials said. "They are creating unnecessary hurdles by writing baseless problems on the files for the implementation of the schemes despite funds being allocated in the Budget. They are acting like this as they know that we cannot suspend or even transfer them as the Lieutenant-General has all the powers," an AAP leader said.

President of Indonesia arrives for Republic Day fete, to meet PM tomorrow

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto arrived here on Thursday to attend the 76th Republic Day event on Sunday as the chief guest.

This is the first state visit to India by Mr. Subianto. He is the fourth Indonesian President to be the chief guest at the Republic Day function.

As a special gesture, a 352-member marching and band contingent from Indonesia will take part in the parade.

Mr. Subianto will be hosted at Hyderabad House on Saturday, where he and Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lead the respective delegations at an official-level dialogue.

During the meeting, the two sides will sign a number of memorandums of understanding, sources said. Mr. Subianto will attend the "At Home" reception by President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar will call on the visiting dignitary.

Official engagements for Mr. Subianto will begin on Friday, when External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar is scheduled to call on him.

Dry run: The Indonesian contingent during the full dress rehearsal for the Republic Day parade in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

Old allies

India was the first major country to recognise Indonesia, and New Delhi led an international campaign for recognition of Indonesia's Independence at the international level in the late 1940s.

The relation received an early boost when President Sukarno was invited to be the chief guest at the first Republic Day celebrations on January 26, 1950, following the adoption of the Constitution of India.

Over the past decades, Indonesia has emerged as an important pillar of India's Act East Policy and regular interactions have been held between officials and military personnel of the two sides. Indonesia is one of the largest trading partners of India in the ASEAN region, with bilateral trade touching $29.4 billion in 2023-24.

Mr. Modi visited Indonesia in 2018, when the relation was elevated to the level of a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, and the two sides adopted the Shared Vision of India-Indonesia Maritime Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. The same year, India and Indonesia signed the Defence Cooperation Agreement, which has boosted defence ties and led to staff-level talks between the Air Forces, the Navies, and the Armies of both sides.

Review collaboration

Indonesia is home to one of the oldest Indian diaspora communities in the ASEAN region, and the two sides are ancient cultural partners. The visit by Mr. Subianto, according to sources, will give an opportunity to review collaboration in areas such as defence, security, trade and investment, healthcare, digital technologies, energy, culture connectivity, tourism, and people-to-people relations.

The third India-Indonesia CEO Forum will be held on the sidelines of the visit.

Adityanath, Nadda target AAP on graft and governance

Heating up: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with other BJP leaders in New Delhi on Thursday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

While the U.P. CM accused the party of stalling development, the BJP chief listed out its alleged scams

Taking repeated jabs at the ruling Aam Aadmi Party, Bharatiya Janata Party president J.P. Nadda and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath addressed campaign rallies in various parts of the city on Thursday.

Mr. Adityanath accused the AAP of stalling development over the past decade, while Mr. Nadda told people that Delhi would soon be rid of the corrupt "AAP-da" party.

The BJP president told people that the AAP, which was born out of an anti-corruption movement, had used all opportunities in the past 10 years to cross records of corruptions. "We all remember how former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal would talk about education, but those who talked about education went to jail after the liquor scam," he said.

Condition of Yamuna

Meanwhile, Mr. Adityanath hit out at the AAP leadership for the condition of the Yamuna flowing through Delhi. "As a Chief Minister, if I and my Ministers can take a dip in the Sangam [in Prayagraj], then I ask Kejriwal if his Cabinet can also go and take a dip in the Yamuna along with his Ministers," he said.

Mr. Adityanath said that "illegal Bangladeshis and Rohingya are being resettled in Delhi in the Okhla area of Delhi by the AAP".

While Mr. Nadda spoke about alleged scams in the capital, the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister asked people of Delhi to bring in the "double engine government" for the betterment of the city.

"We can see he [Kejriwal] is panicking now, but what about the five years of scam worth ₹500 crore he did related to panic buttons in taxis in the capital. In ration cards, they did scam worth ₹5,400 crore and scams worth ₹4,500 crore were done while buying buses. Kejriwal used to say he would put CCTV cameras, but even that was a scam. And not just that, Kejriwal keeps talking about Muslim brothers, but even in Waqf Board, he did ₹100 crores scam. They have not left anyone," he alleged.

Mr. Nadda said the AAP used to talk against corruption but one by one all of the senior leaders including their Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister and other senior Ministers went to jail.

Mr. Adityanath said Delhi will not accept this failed government any more, which is why the BJP will come to power in the capital. Once Delhi has a double engine government too, Delhi will become like Uttar Pradesh in terms of development, and like everyone is flocking to Uttar Pradesh now, they will come to Delhi too, he added.

Delhi elections are scheduled for February 5 while counting of votes will be done on February 8. The BJP is hoping to form a government in the capital after nearly 28 years.

Delhi wants Sheila Dikshit's development model: Rahul

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Neither Prime Minister Narendra Modi nor AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal can do the kind of work that the Congress's former Delhi CM Sheila Dikshit has done for the city, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said on Thursday, in a video message asking people to vote for the Congress to bring "real development" back to the capital.

Highlighting the problems that plague the city, Mr. Gandhi's touched upon inflation, unemployment, pollution, bad construction, GST, and corruption, using snippets of his interactions with Delhi residents in the run-up to the State's upcoming Assembly election. "Delhi now wants the same real development model of Sheila Dikshit *ji*, not the false propaganda and PR model of BJP and Kejriwal," he said.

Several bogus voters registered for SGPC poll, alleges Akali Dal

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) on Thursday alleged that "bogus voters" had been registered for the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) election with several non-Sikhs given voting rights.

Demanding extension of the process for registration of voters to March 31, besides weeding out all bogus voters, a delegation of the SAD met gurdwara elections chief commissioner Justice S.S. Saron (retd) here.

The SGPC is a statutory body established under the Sikh Gurdwara Act of 1925, which controls and manages Sikh gurdwaras in Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh. The SGPC polls are supposed to be held every five years by the Gurdwara Election Commission. The previous election was held in 2011.

"We informed Justice Saron that the State government had directed booth-level officers to register voters *en masse* from voter lists due to which thousands of non-Sikhs had been given the voting right for the SGPC elections," former SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal, who was part of the delegation, said.

HC seeks NIA stand on J&K MP's bail plea in terror funding case

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Thursday asked the NIA to spell out its stand on Jammu and Kashmir MP Engineer Rashid's plea for bail in a terror funding case.

Senior advocate N. Hariharan, representing Mr. Rashid, urged the High Court to either direct its expeditious disposal or decide the matter itself.

"Issue notice. Let reply/status report be filed before the next date of hearing," the Court said while posting the case for hearing on January 30.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA STATE
PUBLIC HEALTH & MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
NIT No.17/SE/PH/WGL/RWBP/AMRUT-2.0/ Spl. Tranche/2024-25/1246 Dt:23-01-2025
Name of the work: MA & UD - PHMED- Rejuvenation of 50 Water Body Projects in 45 ULBs under AMRUT 2.0 (Special Tranche) under the jurisdiction of Adilabad, Karimnagar, Khammam and Warangal PH Divisions in Package-1, **Total Estimated Cost: Rs. 132.45 Crores;** Bid Submission Start Date: 29.01.2025 @11.00 AM.; Bid Submission Closing Date: 13.02.2025 @ 04:30 P.M For details visit **https://tender.telangana.gov.in,** Contact No:- 9704601864, 9392920307.
DIPR R.O.No.9537-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2024-25 Dt. 23.01.2025
Sd/- Superintending Engineer, P.H. Circle Warangal.

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INBRIEF

BSF to hold talks with BGB in Delhi from February 16 to 20

The next round of biannual Director-General level talks between the Border Security Force (BSF) and Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB) will be held in Delhi from February 16 to 20, the first time after the regime change in the neighbouring country, a government official said. The talks that were previously slated to be held in October 2024 were postponed due to the ongoing political situation in Bangladesh. The biannual talks were previously held in Dhaka. Fencing of border areas, trans-border crimes, and coordinated patrolling will be on the agenda of the talks, the official said. The BSF is also likely to raise the issue of attacks on minorities in the neighbouring country.

Netaji's grandnephew renew appeal to return his ashes

As the nation pays their respects to freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on his 128th birth anniversary, his grandnephew Chandra Kumar Bose renewed his demand for the return of Netaji's ashes to India from Japan's Renkoji temple. Mr. Chandra Bose paid respects to his granduncle and posted on X, "It is time we follow his inclusive ideology to unite all communities as 'Bharatiyas' – to save the nation from disintegration. Jai Hind!" He said that it is unfortunate that Netaji's remains are lying in a foreign country. He expressed his discontent over the fact that even after several letters there has been no response about the issue from the PM.

States yet to use ₹70,744-cr. funds for welfare of workers

Since the implementation of the Building and Other Construction Workers Act in 2005, the Boards have collected ₹1,17,507.22 crore as cess but allocated only ₹67,669.92 crore for workers

A.M. Jigeesh
NEW DELHI

The Union Labour Ministry said in a Right to Information (RTI) reply that the welfare Boards for building and other construction workers of various States have not yet used the cess of ₹70,744.16 crore they collected from the employers for the welfare of the workers.

Since the implementation of the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act in 2005, the Boards have collected ₹1,17,507.22 crore as cess from the employers and allocated ₹67,669.92 crore with the workers.

The Act, passed in 1996, empowers the Construction Workers' Welfare Board constituted by State governments to levy cess from employers "at such rate not exceeding 2%, but not less than 1%" of the cost of construction incurred by an employer.

As many as 5,73,48,723 workers have registered with 36 State Welfare Boards till September 30, 2024. There have been complaints that the Centre and the State governments did not help the construction workers during the exodus to villages soon after the COVID lockdowns announced in March 2020.

Labour force: As many as 5,73,48,723 workers have registered with 36 State Welfare Boards till September 30, 2024. FILE PHOTO

Cess evasion

Arka Rajpandit, national secretary, Construction Workers Federation of India, who filed the RTI with the Ministry, said the document points towards huge cess evasion by the builders and employers.

"For instance in Maharashtra, the total accumulated cess for 19 years is ₹19,489.25 crore. This means that the State had constructions worth ₹19 lakh crore in the last 19 years. Construction worth ₹1 lakh crore per year. This statistics is far from true. Huge cess evasion may have happened from the State," Mr. Rajpandit said.

Though he had asked for the information regarding the total cost of the building and other construction projects as per the approved plans by the local authorities concerned pertaining to all States and Union Territories, the Ministry said such data are not available with the Labour Ministry.

The trade union leader argued that States spent a very meagre amount of the total money collected for the welfare of workers. "Workers were denied their stipulated benefits," he said. The data show that Maharashtra spent ₹13,683.18 from the cess it collected in the past 19 years, followed by Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh that provided ₹7,921.42 and ₹7,826.66 crore to the workers.

Mr. Rajpandit said if the Centre implements the Code on Social Security, the cess collection process will be diluted as it has provisions for self-assessment by the employer of cess and the code reduced the rate of cess and interest.

"Secondly, the Building and Other Construction Workers Act mandated the provision of free temporary accommodation, drinking water and latrines to workers. The Codes change these statutory entitlements to facilities that the Union government may prescribe. Hence, there is no right to workers to these facilities if not prescribed," he said.

"Our observation is that, except Kerala, most of the State governments and Union Territory administrations are not implementing Building and Other Construction Workers Act. Stipulated benefits are being curtailed," Mr. Rajpandit said.

'New MGNREGS wage payment system not significantly better'

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

There is no statistically significant difference either in timely payment of wages or in payment rejections between the Aadhaar-Based Payment System (ABPS) and the standard bank account-based methods, according to a study published in the latest edition of the *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*.

Researchers analysed 3.14 crore Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) transactions totalling ₹4,602 crore, made in 2021-22 across 10 States.

The Union government made the Aadhaar-based system mandatory from January 1, 2024, arguing that it boosts efficiency, savings, and transparency. Many workers, however, have repeatedly complained that their wage payments have been misdirected due to the ABPS, while the names of many workers have been deleted because of a mismatch between details in their job cards and their Aadhaar.

The paper, titled "MGNREGA as a technological laboratory: analysing wage payment delays as a result of two digital interventions", was authored by Suguna Bheemarasetti, Anuradha De, Rajendran Narayanan, Parul Saboo, and Laavanya Tamang. All the authors are affiliated with Lib Tech India, a consortium of activists and academics.

The rejections due to ABPS are centralised and harder to resolve, the study said.

The study analysed the percentage of payments processed within seven and 15 days across the two payment types. The difference between the time taken to process payments was marginal. It found that 36% of account-based payments were processed within seven days compared to 39% of ABPS payments. Any problems with account-based payments, can be resolved locally through the block-level computer operator. "The rejections due to ABPS are centralised and harder to resolve," the study said.

Stung by Puja Khedkar scam, govt. amends Civil Services Exam Rules

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Online submission of documents, such as educational, caste and physical disability certificates, has been made mandatory for candidates for the preliminary stage of the Civil Service Examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), a government notification has said.

Previously, documents were to be uploaded only when a candidate qualified for the main examination.

On Wednesday, the Ministry of Personnel notified the Civil Services Examination Rules, 2025. The Ministry said 979 vacancies will be filled by this year's examinations which is the lowest in the past three years. The exams are held to recruit candidates for 23 services including the Indian Administrative Service, Indian Foreign Service and Indian Police Service. In the CSE 2023, around 10.1 lakh candidates applied, however, only 5.9 lakh candidates appeared for the examinations.

Puja Khedkar

The changes have been brought as Puja Khedkar was selected as a probationary IAS officer after she allegedly forged identity papers, misrepresented and falsified facts to obtain extra attempts and produced a fake persons with benchmark disability certificate to gain reservation in the 2022 exam.

Ms. Khedkar could bypass the UPSC's gatekeeping by appearing in the exams 12 times as against the nine attempts that are allowed.

The alleged forgery and crime was revealed last June while she was posted for field training in Pune. Ms. Khedkar was subsequently discharged from service, faces criminal cases and is currently on bail.

Inquiry ordered

Following this, the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) initiated an inquiry against six officials, including a probationer, to re-examine their disability parameters.

The officials – five Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers and an Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer – got into the services by getting reservation benefits under the disability category.

The January 22 notification stated that candidates "shall be required to apply online and submit the requisite information and supporting documents towards various claims, such as date of birth, category [viz. SC (Schedule Caste)/ ST(Scheduled Tribe) /OBC (Other Backward Classes (OBC)/ EWS (Economically Weaker Section) /PwBD/ Ex-Servicemen], educational qualification and Service preference, etc." as may be sought by the commission. It added that "the failure to provide the required information and documents along with the registration and online application form will entail cancellation of candidature for the examination".

Till now, the service and cadre preference were to be submitted after clearing the Mains examination.

DGCA suggests phased implementation of new norms for pilots from July

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) informed the Delhi High Court on Thursday that the revised rest and duty norms – proposed by the aviation regulator for pilots last January and strongly opposed by airlines – could be implemented in a staggered manner starting on July 1.

The court has given the DGCA three weeks to submit an affidavit, where the regulator will specify which provisions will be implemented by July 1 and which remaining provisions will come into force from the Winter Schedule starting in the last Sunday of October.

The DGCA's January 2024 proposal, which was scheduled to be enforced from June 1, 2024, was widely welcomed by pilots amid concerns over rising fatigue. However, it faced stiff opposition from airlines and its implementation was subsequently deferred indefinitely. Following a writ petition from pilot bodies, the court had ordered the DGCA to hold talks between airlines and various pilot bodies to arrive at a consensus on the implementation timeline. On Thursday, pilot associations objected to a phased implementation of the new norms. The court indicated that the objection would be considered after the said affidavit is filed.

Air India and Air India Express agreed to enhance weekly rest to 48 hours from June.

In letters from various airlines in early December, IndiGo rejected the DGCA's suggestion to raise the definition of night flying from all flying between midnight and 5 a.m. by an hour to include flying till 6 a.m. and proposed keeping it unchanged. Air India and Air India Express said they could implement the new definition only after the DGCA implements the data-based Fatigue Risk Management System. They agreed to enhance weekly rest to 48 hours from June.

NHRC orders new inquiry into hiring by Foxconn

Reuters
NEW DELHI

The National Human Rights Commission has admonished Labour Department officials for failure to adequately investigate evidence of employment discrimination at Foxconn, which makes Apple iPhones, and told them to re-examine the matter, documents show.

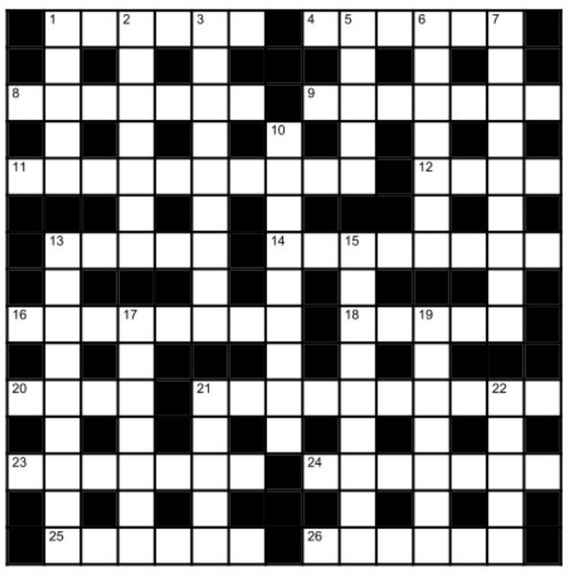
The NHRC, in June, ordered Central and Tamil Nadu officials to probe Foxconn's hiring practices, after a Reuters investigation found that the manufacturer excluded married women from iPhone assembly jobs at its southern India plant. Foxconn relaxed the ban during high-production periods, Reuters found. The iPhone factory is a flagship foreign investment in India.

TH CROSSWORD + 14390

(set by Afterdark)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Introduces small pastries (6)
4 Challenge the purpose (6)
8 Estates held by veteran chessman (7)
9 Mother's old and injured (7)
11 Choices in Sweden polls (10)
12 Apes destroyed plants (4)
13 Mixture for repasts in the middle with gateau essentially (5)
14 Went hungry around noon, with leading eating-house being closed (8)
16 New readers take time to get engaged (8)
18 Say, people from Emirates are mostly sailors (5)
20 Investigates the boarding-house (4)
21 Award given to nurse and civil engineer at meeting (10)
23 Treadle broken, so changed (7)
24 Set rice, cooked and delivers (7)
25 Governing body leaders speak English, no alternate to engage (6)
26 Snatches small ducks (6)

Down

1 Suggestion to cycle in hell (5)
2 Say, Sagittarians could be weapon handlers (7)
3 Matter resolved with specialist's medication (9)
5 Boycotts import of primarily exotic plants (5)
6 Questions pastor and the French model (7)
7 Youngsters enter false age inside school (9)
10 Certain to confess taking the book (9)
13 Traces of cocaine and some LSD in raves (9)
15 Saint had people get Times report (9)
17 Each authoritarian is oriental (7)
19 Plant a top mole initially in a country (7)
21 Sneaked agent into Connecticut (5)
22 Sides of screw damaged (5)

SUDOKU

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

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I		R		R		N		A		O		A		E
Z	E	B	R	A		I	N	T	E	R	P	R	E	T
E		L		T		S		E		S		O		Y
	D	E	T	E	R	M	I	N	A	T	I	O	N	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	7	5	2	1	9	3	8	4
8	1	3	4	6	5	7	2	9
2	4	9	3	7	8	5	1	6
5	9	1	7	2	4	6	3	8
7	6	4	8	3	1	2	9	5
3	2	8	5	9	6	4	7	1
4	3	6	1	8	2	9	5	7
9	8	7	6	5	3	1	4	2
1	5	2	9	4	7	8	6	3

FAITH

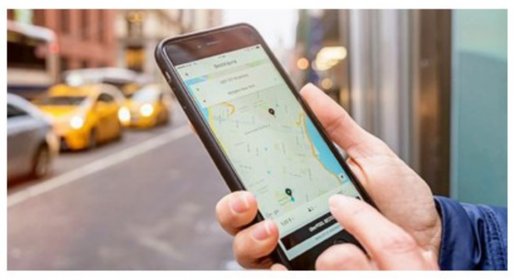
Thiruvidaikkazhi kshetra

Thiruvidaikkazhi is known as the Tiruchendur of Chola Nadu, said T. Rajarathiunam in a discourse. It is 6 km from Thirukkadavur. Arunagirinatha has sung six verses in his Thiruppugazh in praise of the Murugan of Thiruvidaikkazhi. It is the place where Sendanar attained mukti. Soorapadman's son Hiranyasuran told his father about the greatness of Murugan and advised him to release the devas. But Soorapadman paid no heed to his son's words. When Murugan fought against Soorapadman, Hiranyan did not desert his father, but joined his forces. But he was unable to face Veerabahu, the chief among Murugan's warriors. So Hiranyan assumed the form of a fish and hid in the ocean in Tharangambadi. After killing Soorapadman, Murugan killed Hiranyan at Thiruvidaikkazhi.

Sendanar composed Thiruvisaippa in praise of the Thiruvidaikkazhi Murugan. The sacred tree of this temple is the Kura (webera corymbosa). Under this tree is a bali peetha. Aradhana is offered to this tree first during ardhajama puja, because Murugan did penance under this tree. This tree usually grows on hill slopes, which makes the tree in Thiruvidaikkazhi very special, since this kshetra is not on a hill.

The Siva here is called Papavinasa. In inscriptions, Murugan of this temple is called Thirukkurathudaiyar. The magizham tree in this temple is the sacred tree for Lord Siva here. Meenakshi Sundaram Pillai wrote Thiruvidaikkazhi Murugan Pillai Tamizh in praise of the deity of this kshetra. Thiruvidaikkazhi has a special place in the hearts of devotees, because both Siva and Murugan are enshrined here.

INBRIEF



CCPA issues notices to Uber, Ola, and Apple Inc.

Union Consumer Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has sought an explanation from Apple Inc, Uber and Ola on complaints received against them with the National Consumer Helpline. The complaint against Apple's iPhones was on performance issues following the iOS 18+ software update, and for Uber and Ola, it was on their differential pricing strategy based on different phone models (iPhones or Android).

HPCL Q3 net profit rises threefold to ₹2,544 crore

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) reported a more than threefold increase in consolidated net profit to ₹2,544 crore for the third quarter ended December 31, 2024, compared with ₹713 crore in the year-earlier period. Consolidated sales revenue grew marginally to ₹1,18,513 crore from ₹1.18,027 crore in the same period last year. Standalone profit after tax (PAT) grew sharply to ₹3,023 crore from ₹529 crore in the year-ago period.

Zee Entertainment Q3 profit jumps threefold to ₹164 crore

Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd. (ZEEL) on Thursday reported a nearly three-fold jump in consolidated net profit at ₹163.6 crore for December quarter FY25, helped by lower expenses, specially operational costs. The company had posted a profit of ₹58.5 crore for the year-ago period, ZEEL said in a regulatory filing. Revenue from operations in the quarter under review was at ₹940.6 crore as compared with ₹1,027.4 crore in the year ago, it added. PTI

Meta secures NCLAT relief from CCI's Whatsapp diktat

Tribunal holds that the Competition Commission's order against data sharing between Whatsapp and its owner for advertising purposes "may lead to a collapse" of the former's business model

Reuters
NEW DELHI

An Indian tribunal temporarily suspended a five-year data sharing ban between WhatsApp and owner Meta Platforms, a major relief for the U.S. giant which had warned its advertising business will be affected.

Meta had challenged the Competition Commission of India's (CCI) directive issued in November that imposed a ban on data sharing between WhatsApp and other Meta entities for advertising purposes, warning it may have to roll back some features. Meta also criticised the CCI for not having the "technical expertise" to understand the ramifications of its order. On Thursday, India's National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) ordered a suspension of the data sharing ban while it continues to hear Meta's challenge to the antitrust ruling.

The ban "may lead to a collapse" of WhatsApp's business model, the tribunal noted. India is the biggest market for Meta where it has more than 350 million Facebook users and over 500 million people using WhatsApp.

Meta earlier told the appeals tribunal that it may have to "roll back or pause" some features such as those that would allow an Indian fashion business, for example, to personalise ads on Facebook or Instagram based on interaction with a WhatsApp user.

Facebook's registered entity engaged in selling advertising in India – Facebook India Online Services – reported revenue of $351 million in 2023-24, the highest in at least five years. A Meta spokesperson said it welcomed the ruling and "will evaluate next steps." CCI, which did not respond to a request for comment, can challenge the order in the Supreme Court if it wants to.

Dr. Reddy's Q3 net rises under 2% to ₹1,404.2 crore

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Generic drugmaker Dr. Reddy's Laboratories reported consolidated net profit increased a tad under 2% during the December quarter to ₹1,404.2 crore from ₹1,380.9 crore in the year earlier.

The muted growth came on a nearly 16% increase in total revenue from operations at ₹8,381.2 crore from ₹7,236.8 crore a year ago, the results prepared as per the Indian Accounting Standards showed.

UltraTech Cement Q3 net slips 17% to ₹1,474 cr., revenue up 3%

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

UltraTech Cement Ltd. reported a 17% year-on-year dip in consolidated net profit for the third quarter ended December 31, to ₹1,474 crore even as revenue from operations grew by 2.7% to ₹17,193 crore.

Additionally, UltraTech has made an open offer to the public shareholders of The India Cements to buy up to 26% stake at an offer price of ₹390 per share.

During the quarter, UltraTech achieved a capacity utilisation of 73% and domestic sales volume grew 10%. Energy costs were lower by 13% on account of a decrease in fuel cost, the company said.

As part of its capacity expansion programme, UltraTech commissioned an additional 1.8 mtpa [million tonne per annum] capacity during the quarter. With the acquisition of The India Cements , UltraTech's cement capacity has increased to 171.11 mtpa on a consolidated basis.

Upon completion of the ongoing expansion projects and the acquisition of Kesoram Cement (10.75 mtpa), UltraTech will achieve the milestone of over 200 mtpa cement capacity by end of FY27, the company said.

UltraTech has acquired a 31.72% stake in The India Cements Ltd. Along with its existing shareholding of 22.77% in the firm, UltraTech's total holding has risen to 55.49%, making it a subsidiary of UltraTech.

Tea industry breaks a sweat over massive import spurt from Kenya

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

India, the world's largest tea producer after China, has become the largest importers of the beverage from Kenya.

According to the Tea Board of Kenya, exports to India shot up from 3.53 million kg from January to October 2023 to 13.71 million kg during the same period in 2024. The 288% jump makes India the country's largest importer of its teas, it said.

India's tea exports also increased from 184.46 million kg from January to October in 2023 to 209.14 million kg during the same period in 2024, the Tea Board of India's report on tea exports during 2024 said. The increase was a tad more than 13%.

The leap in tea imports from Kenya has been a cause of concern for tea producers and traders in India, who have been grappling with oversupply for some time although production in the country dropped by more than 50 million kg in 2024 with Assam recording a crop loss of about 20 million kg.

"The imports from Kenya in recent months have been alarming as oversupply in India has kept prices of local teas in check. Some Indian brands use the cheap and lower-quality African teas as well as substandard teas from Iran and Vietnam for blending and re-exporting as Indian teas," a tea producer said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	76,520	0.15
US Dollar	86.44	-0.10
Gold	82,900	0.20
Brent oil	79.32	-0.05

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2385.00	8.45
Adani Ports	1104.00	1.75
Apollo Hosp	6920.85	27.95
Asian Paints	2276.35	14.25
Axis Bank	951.05	-8.25
Bajaj Auto	8399.95	-60.90
Bajaj Finserv	1746.15	2.85
Bajaj Finance	7443.25	46.10
Bharat Elec	273.95	3.60
Bharti Airtel	1636.00	4.25
BPCL	271.25	-6.35
Britannia Ind	5012.60	55.90
Cipla	1451.15	11.75
Coal India	385.80	6.60
Dr Reddys Lab	1289.40	-6.85
Eicher Motors	5116.20	106.50
Grasim Ind	2461.15	73.00
HCL Tech	1807.00	-20.70
HDFC Bank	1664.90	-1.15
HDFC Life	621.00	2.80
Hero MotoCorp	4100.35	44.65
Hindalco	608.25	-5.20
Hind Unilever	2321.70	-21.25
ICICI Bank	1201.75	1.30
IndusInd Bank	970.95	0.00
Infosys	1865.45	9.00
ITC	440.20	3.20
JSW Steel	929.90	10.50
Kotak Bank	1894.85	-22.65
L&T	3503.25	-14.95
M&M	2886.45	60.00
Maurti Suzuki	12045.75	25.40
NestleIndia	2198.95	-8.85
NTPC	323.65	1.25
ONGC	263.05	-1.00
PowerGrid Corp	294.35	-3.20
Reliance Ind	1263.65	-13.45
SBI Life	1449.85	-10.20
State Bank	745.90	-7.55
Shriram Finance Ltd.	529.80	11.15
Sun Pharma	1833.60	34.65
TataConsumerProduct	983.90	16.50
Tata Motors	752.50	9.75
Tata Steel	130.37	1.45
TCS	4145.45	-11.15
Tech Mahindra	1713.40	29.45
Titan	3398.55	42.10
Trent Ltd.	5733.60	107.25
UltraTech Cement	11420.90	727.15
Wipro	317.70	8.60

AESL Q3 PAT up 73% to ₹562 cr.

Adani Energy Solutions Ltd. (AESL) reported consolidated net profit for the third quarter ended December 31 rose 73% year on year to ₹562 crore. Revenue for the quarter grew 28% to ₹5,830 crore.

Notes from Davos

Chandrajit Banerjee

The sun took a day off in Davos on the last two days, leaving the town wrapped in a grey shroud of cold and the ski resort shining with fresh snow. But within the World Economic Forum (WEF) Congress Centre and along the Promenade, the atmosphere was vibrant with energy and ideas, with leaders from over 130 countries, including heads of state, officials, and CEOs gathering to chart pathways for a collaborative future.

For me, Day two began with the CII Breakfast Session on "Driving Innovation and Talent," where India's emergence as a global hub for Global Capability Centres (GCCs) took the spotlight. Discussions underscored how India's skilling initiatives are seamlessly aligning with global demands, reinforcing its position as a talent powerhouse.

Congress Centre conversations revolved around climate finance, digital transformation, and the future of industry. Panels on sustainability and innovative financing tools underscored the urgency of collaborative action to tackle global challenges. Deliberations on AI highlighted its promise and challenges, including ethical and regulatory questions. Strategies for climate action and fostering equitable growth were also discussed. Experts across panels underscored the importance of fostering global alliances to act faster on climate commitments, emphasising industries' role in advancing sustainable economies.

On Day three, the focus on India was more pronounced with parleys on its economic blueprint and how it can continue to drive global growth. Praising India's delivery of promises, H E Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, CEO of DP World, said India has a bigger chance for growth than China. "For me today, one of the most important markets is India", he added.

Geopolitical tensions were a recurring theme, with discussions focusing on building resilient supply chains amid global uncertainties. Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim shared his vision for driving inclusive growth, while Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez spoke passionately about climate innovation and partnerships. Bringing the Indian perspective, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw outlined India's economic strategy based on the four crucial pillars of public investment in infrastructure; focus on innovation and manufacturing, inclusive growth, as well as simplification.

The week culminated with the CII India Reception, a must-attend for most visitors, with its signature blend of business networking and cultural celebration. This embodies India's presence here - global yet rooted, serious yet spirited.

As I walked back on the snowy streets, I reflected on the synergy between CII's initiatives and WEF's agenda. From climate action to gender inclusivity and innovation, it is clear India's narrative aligns seamlessly with the priorities of the Intelligent Age.

(The writer is Director General of CII)

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Fax: 91 490 2355880,Email: mcctly@gmail.com, Web: www.mcc.kerala.gov.in

No.E 347611 MCC/430/2024-E3-GAD/91 **WALK-IN INTERVIEW** 17/01/2025
Walk-in interview for the selection of Assistant Lecturer-INSeR on Contract Basis. Interested and qualified candidates may report for the Walk – in Interview on 03/02/2025, at 10.00 am with Bio-data, Original & Copies of certificates to prove their age, qualification, experience, etc.

EXISTING AND ARISING VACANCIES
No.E 347611 MCC/430/2024-E3-GAD/92&93 20/01/2025
Online applications are invited for the post of staff Nurse, Technician Nuclear Medicine, Resident Staff Nurse, Resident Pharmacist, Patient Care Assistant in MCC-PGIOSR on Contract Basis.
The last date for submitting online application is 15/02/2025 at 12.00 PM
*MCC invites applications for Senior Resident(Medical) in Pathology, Clinical Hematology & Medical Oncology, Anesthesiology, Imageology,Radiation Oncology and Surgical Oncology.
*MCC invites applications for Non-Stipendiary Training Programs in various disciplines.
Details are available in www.mcc.kerala.gov.in Sd/- Director

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
NIT:21/TUFIDC/UNIT-II/AMRUT 2.0/RWBP/NLG/2024-25, Dt: 23.01.2025
Name of the work: MA & UD - PHMED- Rejuvenation of Water Body Projects in 17 ULBs under AMRUT 2.0 (Special Tranche) under the jurisdiction of Nalgonda PH Division in Package-II, **Total Estimate Cost: Rs.54.73 Crore**; Bid Submission Start Date: 29.01.2025 @ 11.00 AM; Bid Submission Closing Date: 13.02.2025 @ 04:30 PM. For details visit **https://tender.telangana.gov.in.** Contact No: 9160042233, 8978261291.
Sd/- Superintending Engineer (PH),
DIPR R.O.No.9540-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2024-25 Dt. 23.01.2025 TUFIDC, UNIT-II, Nalgonda.

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS : TIRUPATI
MARKETING DEPARTMENT e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
e- Tenders are invited for supply **(1) 10,000 Numbers of New Empty Jute Gunny bags 50 Kgs capacity** through e-tenders to the Marketing Department, T.T. Devasthanams. For Tender Notice and Tender details log on to the Web site **http://www.tirumala.org** and **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.**
For further details contact Phone Number: 0877-2264079.
TTD-40021(31)/1/2024-PRO SEC (Adv.No.297), Date:23-01-2025 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD.
Suratgarh Super Thermal Power Station, Suratgarh-335805
Online Tender Notice: TN 2021 (RVU2425GLOB01868)
E-tenders are invited for Supply of spares for Boiler Feed Pumps Type FK6D30, Booster Pumps Type FA1B56 & Condensate Extraction Pump Type EN8H32 of Unit No.1 to 6 of STPS, Suratgarh. Tender details are available on websites **http//eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** for (e-tender), **www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvunl & www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.**
RVUN/PR-4133
Raj.Samwad/C/24/10696 Superintending Engineer (Proc.)

जयपुर क्षेत्र - द्वितीय, जयपुर
कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, जन स्वा. अभि. विभाग, जयपुर क्षेत्र - द्वितीय, गांधी नगर, जयपुर
ई-मेल :- ace.region2jaipur@yahoo.com, फोन नं. :- 0141- 2702700
क्रमांकः- अ.मु.अ. क्षे-2/2024-25/ दिनांक :- 11.01.2025
निविदा सूचना
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से निम्नानुसार कार्य :-
1. **Replacement of old polluted pipe line, Service Connection and augmentation work in Chowkdi Laxminarayanpuri, Mandikhatikan and Hida ki Mori after 01 year defect liability period under the jurisdiction of city Division - II (North), Jaipur.**
2. **Replacement of old polluted pipe line and augmentation work in Chowkdi Purani Basti, Topkhana Desh including 05 year O&M after 01 year defect liability period under the jurisdiction of city Division - II (North), Jaipur**

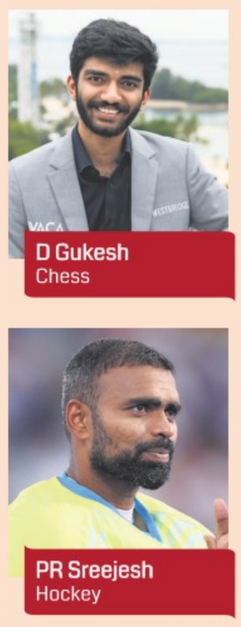
हेतु जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेल्वे इत्यादि में उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट प्रक्रिया द्वारा निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। विस्तृत निविदा एवं निविदा प्रपत्र www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in एवं www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।

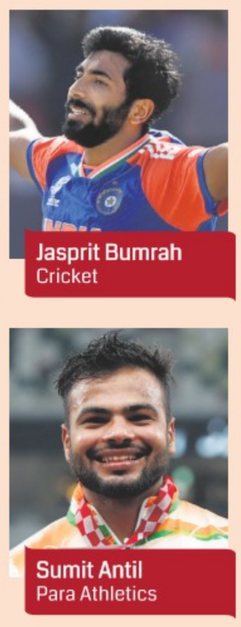
क्रम संख्या	एन.आई.बी	यू.बी.एन. कोड	निविदा संख्या
1	PHE2425A3904	PHE2425WLOB08252	10/2024-25
2	PHE2425A3904	PHE2425WLOB08253	11/2024-25

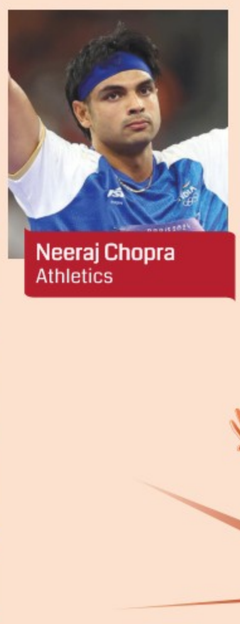
(शुभांशु दीक्षित)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता
जन स्वा. अभि. विभाग
जयपुर क्षेत्र - द्वितीय, जयपुर
DIPR/C/679/25

THE HINDU GROUP

VOTE FOR YOUR SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR


D Gukesh
Chess


Jasprit Bumrah
Cricket


Neeraj Chopra
Athletics

PR Sreejesh
Hockey

Sumit Antil
Para Athletics

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DHAKA

Bangladesh frees 178 paramilitary troops over deadly 2009 mutiny

AFP

Bangladesh released 178 former paramilitary troops on Thursday, nearly 16 years after their detention for a violent mutiny in 2009 that resulted in 74 deaths, including of Army officers, destabilising the government of then-premier Sheikh Hasina. The troops had been acquitted of murder but faced charges related to explosives. AFP

JENIN

Hundreds leave West Bank camp during Israeli raid, says official

AP

Hundreds of residents in the Jenin refugee camp have begun evacuating their homes on Thursday amid a large-scale Israeli military operation. Israeli forces reportedly ordered evacuations using loudspeakers, though the Army claimed it was unaware of any such orders. The operation has resulted in many casualties. AFP

SEATTLE

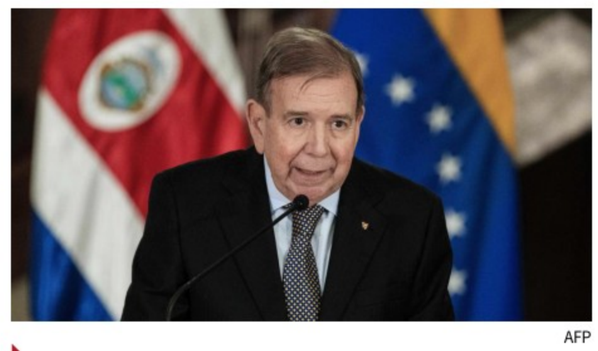
Judge temporarily blocks Trump's order ending birthright citizenship

AP

A federal judge temporarily blocked U.S. President Trump's executive order ending birthright citizenship for children born in the U.S. to undocumented parents. Citing the 14th Amendment, Judge John C. Coughenour ruled against the order, which was set to take effect on February 19, amidst lawsuits from 22 States. PTI

WASHINGTON

U.S. calls Venezuela's Gonzalez Urrutia 'the rightful President'



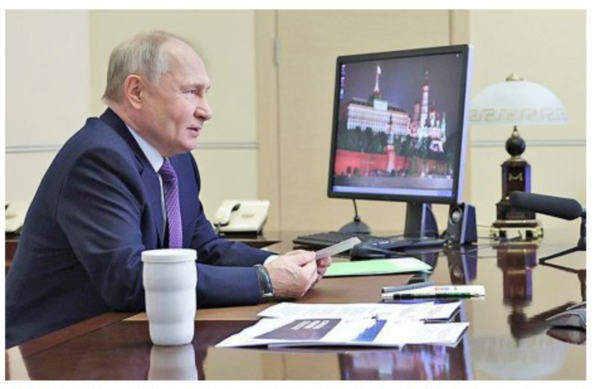
AFP

The U.S. recognised Venezuelan Opposition leader Edmundo Gonzalez Urrutia as the "rightful President," rejecting Nicolas Maduro's third term. In a call with Marco Rubio, Mr. Gonzalez emphasised restoring democracy and releasing political prisoners. The U.S. and allies have dismissed Mr. Maduro's election claims. AFP

Putin is 'increasingly concerned' about status of Russia's economy

Domestic economic activity has become strained in recent months by labour shortages and high interest rates introduced to tackle inflation; Putin is 'ready' to discuss ceasefire options but wants Russia's territorial gains in Ukraine to be accepted

Reuters
MOSCOW



Steady talks: Vladimir Putin holds a meeting of supervisory board of the Agency for Strategic Initiatives in Moscow on Thursday. AP

President Vladimir Putin has grown increasingly concerned about distortions in Russia's wartime economy, just as Donald Trump pushes for an end to the Ukraine conflict, five sources with knowledge of the situation have said.

Russia's economy, driven by exports of oil, gas and minerals, grew robustly over the past two years despite multiple rounds of Western sanctions imposed after its invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

But domestic activity has become strained in recent months by labour shortages and high interest rates introduced to tackle inflation, which has accelerated under record military spending.

That has contributed to the view within a section of the Russian elite that a negotiated settlement to the war is desirable, according to two of the sources familiar with thinking in the Kremlin.

Mr. Trump, who returned to office on Monday, has vowed to swiftly resolve the Ukraine conflict, Europe's biggest since the Second World War.

This week, he has said more sanctions, as well as tariffs, on Russia are likely unless Mr. Putin negotiates, adding that Russia was heading for "big trouble" in the economy. A senior Kremlin aide said on Tuesday Russia had so far received no specific proposals for talks.

"Russia, of course, is economically interested in negotiating a diplomatic end to the conflict," Oleg Vyugin, former deputy chairman of the Central Bank of Russia said in an interview, citing the risk of growing economic distortions as Russia turbocharges military and defence spending.

Mr. Vyugin was not one of the five sources, who all spoke on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the situation in Russia.

Reuters has previously reported that Mr. Putin is ready to discuss ceasefire options with Mr. Trump but that Russia's territorial gains in Ukraine must be accepted and that Ukraine must drop its bid to join the U.S-led NATO military alliance.

Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov acknowledged "problematic factors" in the economy, but said it was developing at a high rate and was able to meet "all military requirements" as well as all welfare and social needs.

Trump tells Davos elite to invest in U.S. or face tariffs

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump used an address on Thursday to the World Economic Forum to promise global elites lower taxes if they bring manufacturing to the U.S. and threatened to impose tariffs if they don't.

Speaking by video from the White House to the annual summit in Davos, Switzerland, on his third full day in office, Mr. Trump ran through his flurry of executive actions since his swearing-in and claimed that he had a "massive mandate" from the American people to bring change. He laid out a carrot-and-stick approach for private investment in the U.S.

"Come make your product in America and we will give you among the lowest taxes as any nation

Donald Trump

on earth," Mr. Trump said. "But if you don't make your product in America, which is your prerogative, then very simply, you will have to pay a tariff – differing amounts – but a tariff, which will direct hundreds of billions of dollars and even trillions of dollars into our treasury to strengthen our economy and pay down debt under the Trump administration."

Mr. Trump, who spoke on Wednesday to Saudi Arabia's crown prince, also said on Thursday that the kingdom wants to invest $600 billion in the U.S. but that he would ask Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to increase it to $1 trillion.

Mr. Trump, who promised to end the Russia-Ukraine war before taking office, said it remained a top priority, but he offered few clues for how he would do so.

"One thing very important: I really would like to be able to meet with President Putin soon and get that war ended," Mr. Trump told the Davos audience. "We really have to stop that war. That war is horrible"

Earlier in his address, Mr. Trump laid blame on the OPEC+ alliance of oil exporting countries for keeping the price of oil too high for much of the nearly three-year war.

S. Korea investigators recommend Yoon be charged with revolt

Agence France-Presse
SEOUL

South Korean investigators on Thursday recommended charging impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol with insurrection and abuse of power following a 51-day probe into his December 3 martial law declaration.

The Corruption Investigation Office (CIO) accused Mr. Yoon of conspiring with military commanders to disrupt the constitutional order and incite riots. Mr. Yoon, currently suspended from duties, declared martial law briefly before lawmakers voted it down.

He was arrested last week, becoming the first sitting South Korean President detained in a criminal investigation. His legal team has urged prosecutors to ensure a legitimate investigation. The case will now be handed to prosecutors, who have 11 days to decide on charges.

Anuja nominated for Best Live Action Short Film at 2025 Academy Awards

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Anuja, a short film set in New Delhi, has on Thursday received a nomination for the Live Action Short Film category at the 97th Academy Awards. Directed by Adam J. Graves and Suchitra Mattai, it competes against films like *A Lien* and *The Last Ranger*.

The nominations for the 2025 Oscars, which were twice postponed earlier this month due to wildfires in Los Angeles, were announced by Bowen Yang and Rachel Sennott.

Decisive turn: The film tells the story of a gifted nine-year-old girl, Anuja, who must choose between education and factory work.

The film tells the story of a gifted nine-year-old girl, Anuja, who must choose between education and factory work alongside her sister, impacting their futures. Produced by Guneet Monga and Mindy Kaling, it collaborates with the Salaam Baalak Trust to address child labour issues.

Additionally, *I Am Ready, Warden*, directed by Smriti Mundhra, is nominated in the Documentary Short Film category. Ms. Mundhra was earlier nominated in the same category for her film "St. Louis Superman" at the 2019 Oscars.

All We Imagine As Light is nominated for the Best Film Not in English Language at the 2025 BAFTA Film Awards.

The Oscars will take place on March 2 at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles.

Pakistan passes Bill tightening control over social media

Associated Press
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's Lower House of Parliament has passed a controversial Bill granting the government extensive controls over social media, including the ability to imprison users for spreading disinformation.

The Bill was expedited after Opposition lawmakers, protesting the law, staged a walkout. Critics argue it threatens freedom of speech, with human rights activists claiming it expands executive power over both content and social media platforms.

The new law mandates that platforms register with a regulatory authority and criminalises disinformation, punishable by up to three years in prison and fines.

Despite widespread opposition, the ruling government defends the legislation as necessary to combat misinformation and hate speech.

Sport

Glushko tries to find happiness on court in face of constant conflict

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Israel tennis player Lina Glushko found it hard to focus on the sport when the Israel-Hamas war raged on. While on tour, Glushko worried for the safety of her friends and family back home, and faced a personal loss early in the conflict.

"All my friends went to army service as soon as the war started. I lost friends in the war. I had a friend who died the day the war started. It has been very tough," Glushko said, after winning her doubles quarterfinal in the $1,00,000 KPB Trust Women's Open here alongside Russian partner Anastasia Tikhonova.

Glushko had served a mandatory two years with

Lina Glushko. K. MURALI KUMAR

the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF). Glushko hopes that the recent ceasefire will eventually lead to long-term peace.

"In my country, it never stops because we have conflict all the time. My friends and family are there, so I'm obviously under stress about them all the time. It's really sad to say that I'm kind of used to it (conflict), because this is not the first war we have had.

"We have it constantly. I just hope that things settle down soon and get better all over the world, not just in our country. I want peace everywhere," the 25-year-old said.

At times, Glushko has had to conceal her nationality to stay safe. "When I play a tournament, I have my Israel flag next to my name, so I cannot hide it. However, when I go to countries that are against Israel, if I'm alone in the street, I try to hide my identity," she said.

On the court, there is added motivation to perform well. "When I'm on the court I try to bring a bit of happiness and good news to my country and to my family," Glushko said.

Gukesh climbs to fourth in live world rankings

Press Trust of India
WIJK AAN ZEE

D. Gukesh beat Vincent Keymer of Germany in the fifth round of the Tata Steel Chess tournament here. With this win, he climbed to fourth spot in world rankings in live ratings, overtaking Arjun Erigaisi.

Important results (round 5):
Masters: Mendonca (1) drew with Erigaisi (1); Warmerdam (2) drew with Praggnanandhaa (4); Wei (2.5) drew with Harikrishna (3); Gukesh (3.5) bt Keymer (2.5); van Foreest (1.5) lost to Abdusattorov (4); Fedoseev (3.5) bt Caruana (2.5).
Challengers: Vasihali (3) drew with Svane (2.5); ML'ami (4) bt Divya (1.5).

Host of speakers set to discuss key issues at *Sportstar's* Focus Bihar Conclave in Patna

The *Sportstar* Conclave caravan's third edition will move to Patna for the Focus Bihar Conclave, set to take place here on Friday.

The Honourable Chief Minister of Bihar, Nitish Kumar, will deliver the closing remarks, while the Deputy Chief Minister of the State, Samrat Choudhary, will inaugurate the event.

Bihar Sports Minister Surendra Mehta will also be in attendance.

A host of speakers will discuss key issues pertaining to the sports ecosystem in the region.

Olympic bronze medal-winning boxer Vijender Singh, double Olympic bronze medal-winning hockey player P.R. Sreejesh, double-Paralympic medal-winning athlete Sharad Kumar, former Paralympic Committee of India chief Deepa Malik, and Indian women's hockey team head coach Harendra Singh will headline the event.

Veteran Winter Olympian Shiva Keshavan, World Athletics Vice President Adille Sumariwalla and shuttler Aditi Mutatkar are some of the other speakers at the event.

B. Rajender, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Sports, Government of Bihar, and Raveendran Sankaran, Director General and CEO, Bihar State Sports Authority, will be in conversation with *Sportstar* Editor Ayon Sengupta during a discussion titled "Accelerating Sports Development in Bihar".

The conclave will also include a panel discussion on Bihar's role in championing India's e-sports revolution.

The session will feature Nishi Kant (Chief, Design & Product at JetSynthesys) and Akshat Rathee (Co-Founder, NODWIN Gaming) in conversation with Abhishek Issar (Founder, UNIV Sportatech & Co-Founder, Federation of Esports India).

Two awards – Unsung Champion (Lifetime Achievement Award for a sporting veteran) and Young Achiever (to a promising athlete under 18 years of age) – will be presented.

The conclave can be followed live on *Sportstar*'s YouTube channel.

The *Sportstar* Focus Bihar Conclave is presented by the Bihar State Sports Authority and the Department of Sports, Government of Bihar.

The associate sponsors are Indian Oil Corporation Limited and State Bank of India. Great SportsTech is the technology partner, and KPMG is the knowledge partner.

DIFFERENT LEAGUE

I felt like Sabalenka was playing a PlayStation, admits Badosa

AFP

As Paula Badosa watched winners from Aryna Sabalenka, *in pic,* scream past her in all directions, it was game over for the Spaniard in the Australian Open semifinals. "Sometimes you're like, I don't know, I'm just walking around the court because I feel like she's playing a PlayStation. Today she was like that," said Badosa.

ROLLER-COASTER RIDE

I blacked out at some point in the third set, reveals Keys

AP

Madison Keys confessed she couldn't recall much detail about the final set where she saved a match point against Iga Swiatek in the semifinal of the Australian Open. "In the third set, it was just so up and down. I feel like I blacked out at some point," a smiling Keys said after setting up a final with Aryna Sabalenka.

NEXT STOP

India and England teams land in Chennai for second T20I

B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

The India and England teams arrived in Chennai on Thursday for the second T20I to be held at the MAC Stadium on January 25. Suryakumar's men lead the five-match series 1-0 following a seven-wicket win in Kolkata on Wednesday. Chennai last hosted an international T20 fixture in 2018 when India faced the West Indies.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

Rocky Flintoff betters father Andrew's England Lions' record

FILE PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

The 16-year-old Rocky Flintoff made an attacking 108 against Cricket Australia XI to become the youngest England Lions cricketer to score a hundred, obliterating the record of his father Andrew in Brisbane on Thursday. The senior Flintoff, coaching the Lions here, had made a hundred when he was 20 for England's junior team.

Solid Harte takes Dragons to the top

The goalkeeper denies Toofans with a series of saves, including three successive ones in a frenzied third quarter and four in the shootout

HIL

Aashin Prasad
ROURKELA

Standing tall: Harte frustrated Toofans with a lion-hearted show. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

David Harte had a sensational game in goal as Tamil Nadu Dragons registered a thrilling 4-3 penalty shootout win over Hyderabad Toofans in a Pool B encounter in the Hockey India League (HIL) at the Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium here on Thursday.

The Irishman pulled off four saves in the shootout to add to his series of stops in the regulation time to frustrate Toofans and take his side to the top of the standings. Maico Casella's goal off a penalty corner – Toofans' 13th PC of the night – with less than 120 seconds left on the clock made it 2-2 before Harte once again got in their way in the shootout.

It was a quick start as both teams were flat-footed in defence. Two goals were scored in as many minutes in the opening exchanges. Toofans went ahead when Tim Brand slid the ball home off a Rajinder Singh pass. Dragons responded immediately through Blake Govers, who picked up a pass at the edge of the circle before crisply striking the ball low to sound the boards.

It was an end-to-end affair with Dragons' forwards in the thick of things but denied by Toofans' goalkeepers Vikas Dahiya and Bikramjit Singh. In the second quarter, the Hyderabad outfit came back stronger and had multiple PCs; however, the team couldn't find a way past Dragons' defence.

The Tamil Nadu side's Jip Janssen then made the most of an opportunity that came his way, angling the ball to the right corner past Dahiya and taking his tally to six goals.

Harte rescued the Dragons time and time again with some stunning stops, including three successive ones in a few seconds in the third quarter. Though Toofans tried penalty corner variations through Amandeep Lakra from the second battery and Rajinder from a decoy, their efforts were thwarted.

In the final minutes, Gonzalo Peillat, Arthur de Sloover and Brand all tried their luck before Casella managed to finally get past Harte through a lucky deflection. However, it was Harte and Dragons who had the final say.

The result:
Tamil Nadu Dragons 2 (Govers 4, Janssen 37) drew with Hyderabad Toofans 2 (Brand 3, Casella 59). Dragons won 4-3 in shootout.

The coach and captain always want me to just express myself, says Abhishek

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

In 2024, Abhishek Sharma had a breakthrough campaign in the IPL for Sunrisers Hyderabad, providing his team with blazing starts. The left-handed opener amassed 484 runs at a breathtaking strike rate of 204.22 and was a vital cog in his side's run to the final. His efforts helped him break into the national T20 team, and he announced himself on the big stage, scoring a century only in his second outing against Zimbabwe.

While his aggressive approach and ability to tee off from the get-go look exciting, it can also misfire. In such situations, the backing a player receives from the think-tank becomes crucial. After that century, the Punjab batter hit a lean patch in the subsequent games. But the team management persisted with the youngster.

Back in the groove: Abhishek revealed that the thinktank's support gave him the confidence to play his natural game. R.V. MOORTHY

On Wednesday, Abhishek repaid that faith by making quick work of a modest target of 133 as he slammed 79 off just 34 balls against England in the first T20 at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata. The 24-year-old later revealed that his coach and captain's support gave him the confidence to play his natural game.

"If you don't score runs in four or five innings, it can play in your mind as a batter," said Abhishek. "But even when I have not done well, they (the coach and captain) say, 'We know you are going to win the game for us, (so) just go and express yourself'. When they say that, you get confidence and back yourself."

He also added that, be it his IPL franchise or the national team, the messaging about his role and approach has been clear, which has made things easy for him.

"When I came to the IPL, the plan was simple: just go and express. And if it's in your arc, even if it is the first ball, just go for it. Even in the Indian team, the plan was simple. We never had a conversation like 'we have to play according to the situation' or something like that," he added.

"They always wanted me just to go and express myself, and I think today was one of those examples that I thought it was my day, and I just wanted to win the game".

Trisha, pacers power India to the Super Six stage

Press Trust of India
KUALA LUMPUR

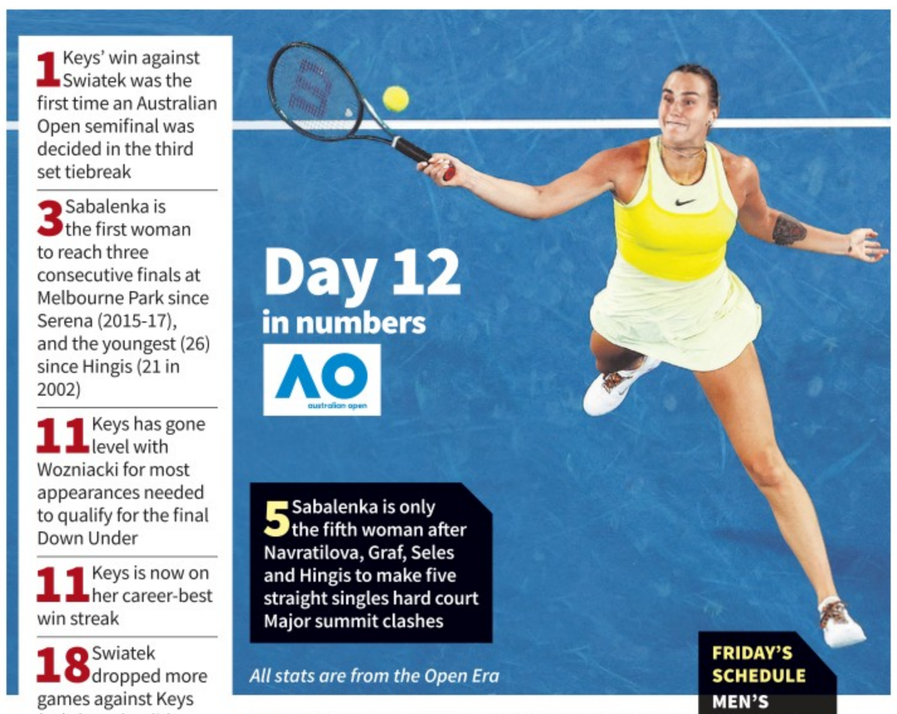
Opener G. Trisha's composed 49 and pacers' excellent new ball spell fashioned India's lopsided 60-run win over Sri Lanka and their entry into the Super Six of the ICC U19 T20 Women's World Cup as Group-A topper here on Thursday.

On a spiteful pitch, Trisha's 44-ball knock (5x4, 1x6) was worth its weight in gold as it guided India to 118 for nine.

Pacers V.J. Joshitha and Shabnam then tore through the Lankan top-order and the latter was restricted to 58 for nine in 20 overs as India finished the group engagements with an all-win record in three matches.

The scores:
India 118/9 in 20 overs (Trisha 49) bt Sri Lanka 58/9 in 20 overs.

Keys rallies to stun Swiatek; Sabalenka blows away Badosa



COMPILED BY ANIRUDH VELAMURI

Agence France-Presse
MELBOURNE

Madison Keys fought back from a set down on Thursday to shock Iga Swiatek in a nail-biter and set up an Australian Open final against two-time defending champion Aryna Sabalenka.

The 19th seed battled to a 5-7, 6-1, 7-6[10-8] semifinal win against the World No. 2 after the top seed had swept aside Paula Badosa in straight sets.

Five-time Grand Slam champion Swiatek had not dropped her serve since the first round but was broken eight times by Keys, who saved a match point on her way to edging a seesaw encounter that lasted two hours and 35 minutes. It will be the American's first final in Melbourne.

Earlier, Sabalenka put her close friendship with Badosa aside to stay on track for a third straight title. The Belarusian World No. 1 romped home 6-4, 6-2 on the Rod Laver Arena.

Things were very different in the second semifinals as Keys flew out of the blocks and broke Swiatek in the opening game.

It signalled the start of a roller-coaster first set in which both players struggled for control.

Three breaks each were exchanged before Swiatek finally clinched it on her second set point after 49 minutes.

Swiatek was, however, far from convincing as the second set witnessed a dramatic turnaround.

Keys surged back, breaking the Pole four times and unleashing three huge aces in one game to take the contest to a decider.

In the final set, the American saved a match point before finally getting over the line.

THE RESULTS

Women (semifinals): 1-Sabalenka (Blr) bt 11-Badosa (Esp) 6-4, 6-2; 19-Keys (USA) bt 2-Swiatek (Pol) 5-7, 6-1, 7-6[10-8].

PSG pushes Man City to the brink; Madrid stays in contention

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) pushed Manchester City to the brink of Champions League elimination after coming from two goals down to win 4-2 on Wednesday while Arsenal all but secured its place in the last 16.

Holder Real Madrid remains in contention for a top-eight spot after sweeping aside Red Bull Salzburg 5-1, but Bayern Munich's hopes of automatic qualification took a hit with a 3-0 defeat by Feyenoord.

Pep Guardiola's City was left stunned as it blew a two-goal lead after Jack Grealish and Erling Haaland struck early in the second half in pouring rain at the Parc des Princes.

Substitute Ousmane Dembele soon halved the deficit for PSG and Bradley Barcola equalised on the hour after Desire Doue's effort came back off the crossbar.

Joao Neves' diving header put PSG on top before Goncalo Ramos added a late fourth as the French champion climbed from 26th in the table to 22nd and bumped City out of the qualifying spots for the knockout phase.

City is down in 25th and must beat Club Brugge at home next week to salvage its campaign.

Arsenal is on the verge of the last 16 as goals from Declan Rice, Kai Havertz and Martin Odegaard sealed a 3-0 home win over Dinamo Zagreb.

The results:
RB Leipzig 2 (Sesko 19, Poulsen 78) bt Sporting Lisbon 1 (Gyokeres 75); Shakhtar Donetsk 2 (Kevin 18, Sudakov 37-pen) bt Brest 0; Real Madrid 5 (Rodrygo 23, 34, Mbappe 48, Vinicius 55, 77) bt RB Salzburg 1 (Bidstrup 85); Paris Saint-Germain 4 (Dembele 56, Barcola 60, Neves 78, Ramos 90+6) bt Manchester City 2 (Grealish 50, Haaland 53);
Sparta Prague 0 lost to Inter Milan 1 (Martinez 12); Arsenal 3 (Rice 2, Havertz 66, Odegaard 90+2) bt Dinamo Zagreb 0; Celtic 1 (Benito 86-og) bt Young Boys 0;
Feyenoord 3 (Gimenez 21, 45+9-pen, Ueda 89) bt Bayern Munich 0; AC Milan 1 (Leao 37) bt Girona 0.

Dancing in the rain: Barcola, right, and Doue are ecstatic after PSG's second goal. AP

Pipers shoot out Warriors to end dismal campaign

Santadeep Dey
RANCHI

Going out on a high: Pipers celebrate their win against the Warriors. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Delhi SG Pipers capped off an otherwise disappointing campaign in the Women's Hockey India League 2025 with a 3-2 victory in a shootout against Odisha Warriors at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Stadium here on Thursday.

Ishika, Navneet Kaur and Sunelita Toppo managed to sneak the ball past Jocelyn Bartram at goal. For the Warriors, Kaitlin Nobbs and Baljeet Kaur were the scorers.

Despite the defeat, the Warriors have officially cemented their place in the final on Sunday.

The 4-0 thrashing by the Warriors in the lung opener of the league was clearly a thing of the past as nothing could separate the sides, stuck at 1-1, in regulation time on Thursday.

In the opening minutes, both sides exercised extreme caution as the game largely stayed locked in the midfield.

Bichu Devi Kharibam caught on to the first sign of impending danger in the ninth minute when Sakshi Rana found Michelle Fillet skulking inside the circle. But the alert Pipers goalkeeper was quick to slide and effectively block the Dutch striker's effort.

The Pipers' Geeta Yadav impressed the crowd with her stick work in the second quarter as she dribbled past three defenders homing in on her, but was left high and dry by her teammates.

The Pipers eventually smelled blood as skipper Navneet Kaur converted from a penalty stroke, awarded for an offence on Preeti Dubey inside the circle.

The Warriors got the equaliser through Yibbi Jansen, who sounded the boards for the fifth time this season with a blazing drag-flick from yet another penalty corner (PC).

With 30 seconds remaining, the Pipers won a PC to have the Warriors quaking in their boots. But Bartram threw her body on the line to force a shootout.

The result: Odisha Warriors 1 (Jansen 35) drew with Delhi SG Pipers 1 (Navneet 28). Pipers won 3-2 in shootout.

INBRIEF

One-match suspension for Bawne for showing dissent

Maharashtra batter Ankeet Bawne has been handed a one-match suspension by the BCCI for showing dissent against an on-field umpire's call in a Ranji Trophy match last year because of which he is missing the tie against Baroda, currently underway in Nashik. The BCCI conveyed the decision to the Maharashtra team in Nashik, where it is playing its Group-A Ranji match. The incident had occurred at the MCA ground in November where Bawne had stood his ground after being caught in the slip by Services' Shubham Rohilla off Amit Shukla.

HPSL to sponsor Bangalore Derby to be run on Jan. 26

R. Manjunath Ramesh, chairman & senior steward of the Bangalore Turf Club, said during a media briefing on Thursday that HPSL will sponsor the Derby jointly with Bangalore Turf Club Limited and the race, to be run on January 26, will be titled 'HPSL Bangalore Derby'. The blue riband event of the season, which has a field of nine runners, has total stakes of ₹1,26,07,500 with the winner taking home ₹61,78,305 and a trophy valued at ₹1.25 lakh.

Hyderabad FC edges Jamshedpur FC in the ISL

Hyderabad FC edged out Jamshedpur FC 3-2 in the Indian Super League (ISL) at the GMC Balayogi Stadium in Hyderabad on Thursday.

The result: Hyderabad FC 3 (Muhammed Rafi 12, Joseph Sunny 69, Andrei Alba 74) bt Jamshedpur FC 2 (Javi Henrnandez 24-pen, 28-pen).

Odisha FC condemns violence by fans in ISL tie against BFC

Amidst reports of scuffles between fans of Bengaluru FC and Odisha FC after their match at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru on Wednesday, Odisha released a statement on X. "The Club has taken note of the unfortunate incidents involving our fans during the game in Bengaluru. The club strongly condemns any form of violence and will be formally addressing the matter with the Indian Super League (ISL) and Bengaluru FC." BFC, which lost the contest 2-3, and the ISL authorities was unavailable for comment.

Indian challenge over at the Indonesia Masters

India's campaign came to an early end at the Indonesia Masters Super 500 badminton tournament after Lakshya Sen and doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty crashed out in the second round on Thursday.

The results (second round): Men: Kenta Nishimoto (Jpn) bt Lakshya Sen 16-21, 21-12, 21-23.
Men's doubles: Kittinupong Kedren & Dechapol Puavaranukroh (Tha) bt Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty 22-20, 23-21.
Women's doubles: Pei Kee Go & Mei Xing Teoh (Mas) bt Tanshia Crasto & Ashwini Ponnappa 13-21, 24-22, 21-18.
Mixed doubles: Pang Ron Hoo & Su Yin Cheng (Mas) bt Dhruv Kapila & Tanshia 18-21, 21-15, 21-19.

Manchester City signs Marmoush from Frankfurt

Manchester City on Thursday announced the signing of Frankfurt forward Omar Marmoush for a reported initial fee of around £59 million.

LIVE TELECAST

U-19 T20 Women's World Cup: Hotstar, 8 a.m. & 12 p.m.
Ranji Trophy: JioCinema, 9.30 a.m.
Australian Open: Sony Sports Ten 2, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 9 a.m. & 2 p.m.
I-League: Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & LIV, 3.30 & 7 p.m.
Hockey: HIL (Women), DD Sports, Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3 (SD & HD) & LIV, 6 & 8.15 p.m.
ISL: Sports 18-3 & JioCinema, 7.30 p.m.

Karnataka in control after its pacers' devastating display on opening day

Trio of Koushik, Abhilash, and Prasidh combine to skittle out Punjab for mere 55 before Smaran's unbeaten 83 helps the host rack up a lead of 144

RANJI TROPHY

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Karnataka established a firm stranglehold over its Ranji Trophy Elite Group-C encounter against Punjab, skittling out the visitor for a paltry 55 here on Thursday and then finishing at 199 for four at stumps on day one.

R. Smaran's stroke-filled, unbeaten 83 (100b, 12x4, 1x6) – his first half-century in First Class cricket – was the highlight of Karnataka's reply.

The 21-year-old, who starred in his side's recent Vijay Hazare Trophy triumph, drove superbly, especially in the arc between third man and cover.

He was equally adept when the bowlers sprayed the ball on his legs, as attested by the clipped four with which he brought up his fifty and his lone maximum off tweaker Jassinder Singh over mid-wicket.

Fiery: V. Koushik led the pacers' charge with four wickets. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

Fellow batters K.V. Aneesh, Mayank Agarwal, Devdutt Padikkal and K.L. Shrijith all got decent starts, but didn't capitalise. But so weak was Punjab's effort that the threat of being buried under a mountain of runs on Friday is genuine.

Earlier, on a nippy winter morning, the host elected to field, and its pacers ensured it was the right move.

Under bowler-friendly conditions, Punjab was dismissed for the second-lowest total at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Ranji Trophy history after Mumbai's 44 in February 2015.

Gill flops

Left-arm pacer Abhilash Shetty (3/19) was the first to strike, removing captain Shubman Gill.

The India batter, on the lookout for runs and confidence, got neither, as the ball flew off his inside edge while he attempted a drive and wicket-keeper Shrijith completed a fine catch.

In the seventh over, V. Koushik (4/16) struck twice, having Pukhraj Mann caught down the leg-side and disturbing Anmolpreet Singh's leg-stump with a delivery that came back in.

When Prabhsimran Singh edged Abhilash to Aneesh at gully, Punjab was reeling at 14 for four.

Ramandeep Singh hung around for a bit (16, 35b, 2x4) but couldn't do much as Prasidh Krishna (2/11) and Koushik ran through the middle- and lower-orders to leave Punjab gasping for breath.

The scores:
Punjab — 1st innings: Prabhsimran Singh c Aneesh b Abhilash 6, Shubman Gill c Shrijith b Abhilash 4, Pukhraj Mann c Shrijith b Koushik 1, Anmolpreet Singh b Koushik 0, Ramandeep Singh c Smaran b Prasidh 16, Sanvir Singh c Shrijith b Prasidh 1, Sukhdeep Bajwa c Shrijith b Abhilash 0, Mayank Markande c Shrijith b Koushik 12, Aradhya Shukla c Shrijith b Parantap 0, Gurnoor Brar (not out) 0, Jassinder Singh c Shreyas b Koushik 4; Extras (b-5, lb-1, w-1, nb-4): 11; Total (in 29 overs): 55.

Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-13, 3-14, 4-14, 5-23, 6-28, 7-46, 8-50, 9-50.

Karnataka bowling: Koushik 11-4-16-4, Abhilash 9-4-19-3, Prasidh 8-3-11-2, Parantap 1-0-3-1.

Karnataka — 1st innings: K.V. Aneesh c Jassinder b Shukla 33, Mayank Agarwal lbw b Sanvir 20, Devdutt Padikkal c Prabhsimran b Gurnoor 27, R. Smaran (batting) 83, K.L. Shrijith c Anmolpreet b Markande 26, Abhinav Manohar (batting) 1; Extras (b-4, lb-3, nb-2): 9; Total (for four wkts. in 50 overs): 199.

Fall of wickets: 1-55, 2-59, 3-111, 4-192.

Punjab bowling: Brar 16-2-74-1, Bajwa 8-0-35-0, Shukla 11-2-29-1, Sanvir 10-2-38-1, Jassinder 3-0-10-0, Markande 2-0-6-1.

Toss: Karnataka

RANJI SCORES - ROUND 6 (DAY ONE)

Elite: Group A: Shillong: Meghalaya 198 in 64.3 overs (Sumit Kumar 40, Jaskirat Singh Sachdeva 43, Tapas Das 6/67) vs Odisha 70/0 in 18 overs (Swastik Samal 44 batting). **Toss:** Odisha.
Agartala: Tripura 116/4 in 41 overs (Srinivas Sharath 57 batting) vs Services. **Toss:** Services.
Nashik: Maharashtra 258/7 in 86 overs (Siddhesh Veer 48, Saurabh Nawale 60 batting) vs Baroda. **Toss:** Baroda.
Mumbai: Mumbai 120 in 33.2 overs (Shardul Thakur 51, Umar Nazir Mir 4/41, Yudhvir Singh 4/31) vs Jammu & Kashmir 174/7 in 42 overs (Shubham Khajuria 53, Abid Mushtaq 44). **Toss:** Mumbai.
Group B: Ahmedabad: Uttarakhand 111 in 30 overs (Siddharth Desai 9/36) vs Gujarat 190/4 in 61 overs (Urvil Patel 53, Manan Hingrajia 66 batting). **Toss:** Uttarakhand.
Hyderabad: Hyderabad 291/2 in 90 overs (Tanmay Agarwal 137 batting, Abhirath Reddy 73, Rahul Radesh 52) vs Himachal Pradesh. **Toss:** Hyderabad.
Puducherry: Andhra 245/7 in 90 overs (Shaik Rasheed 105, K.V. Sasikanth 57 batting) vs Pondicherry. **Toss:** Andhra.
Jaipur: Vidarbha 165 in 57.3 overs (Khaleel Ahmed 5/37) vs Rajasthan 101/5 in 30 overs (Mahipal Lomror 44 batting). **Toss:** Vidarbha.
Group C: Kalyani: Haryana 157 in 44.5 overs (Ankit Kumar 57, Suraj Sindhu Jaiswal 6/46) vs Bengal 10/1 in five overs. **Toss:** Bengal.
Patna: Bihar 248 in 86 overs (Sharman Nigrodh 44, Ayush Loharuka 101, Shivam Mavi 4/61) vs Uttar Pradesh 4/0 in one over. **Toss:** Uttar Pradesh.
Bengaluru: Punjab 55 in 29 overs (V. Koushik 4/16) vs Karnataka 199/4 in 50 overs (R. Smaran 83 batting). **Toss:** Karnataka.

Siddharth Desai (9/36, Gujarat vs Uttarakhand). FILE PHOTO: E. LAKSHMI NARAYANAN

How the India stars fared
Rohit - 3; Jaiswal - 4 (both for Mumbai)
Gill - 4 (Punjab)
Pant - 1 (Delhi)
Jadeja - 5/66 & 38 (Saurashtra)

Thiruvananthapuram: Madhya Pradesh 160 in 60.2 overs (Shubham Sharma 54, Venkatesh Iyer 42, M.D. Nidheesh 5/44) vs Kerala 54/0 in 18 overs. **Toss:** Kerala.
Group D: Guwahati: Assam vs Railways. No play.
Jamshedpur: Chhattisgarh 230 in 80.3 overs (Anuj Tiwary 99 n.o., Ashutosh Singh 43, Utkarsh Singh 5/50) vs Jharkhand 11/0 in six overs. **Toss:** Chhattisgarh.
Salem: Tamil Nadu 301 in 89.1 overs (S. Mohamed Ali 40, N. Jagadeesan 63, B. Indrajith 49, C. Andre Siddarth 106, Vishu Kashyap 5/79) vs Chandigarh. **Toss:** Chandigarh.
Rajkot: Delhi 188 in 49.4 overs (Yash Dhull 44, Ayush Badoni 60, Ravindra Jadeja 5/66) vs Saurashtra 163/5 in 38.5 overs (Harvik Desai 93). **Toss:** Delhi.
Plate (final): Sovima: Goa 258/7 in 90 overs (Suyash Prabhudessai 56, Snehal Kauthankar 63, Kashyap Bakhale 68 batting) vs Nagaland. **Toss:** Goa.

I knew my chance would come, trying to do my best: Abhilash

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Well done, buddy! Abhilash gave his teammates a cause to celebrate three times on Thursday. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

For a rookie fast-bowler, Abhilash Shetty has done rather well.

In his maiden Vijay Hazare Trophy campaign for Karnataka, the left-armer finished with 17 wickets, fifth best in the tournament. This included a nerveless performance against Baroda in the quarterfinals where he successfully bowled the last over with 13 runs needed.

And on Thursday, in only his second First Class game, the 26-year-old returned figures of 3/19 including the prized scalp of Shubman Gill.

"My natural delivery comes in, but initially I didn't get much control," he explained after the close of play.

"But after two balls, it fell into place. I thought 'he [Gill] would have seen me take the ball away initially. If I stick to my line and length, he would drive, and a gap would be created between bat and pad'. That's what I did."

It is hard to believe that the Udupi native had no experience of bowling with the red cherry until he turned up for sports quota selection at Alva's College aged 16.

"But after coming under the tutelage of former India and Karnataka fast bowler Abhimanyu Mithun in Bengaluru, he has truly blossomed, turning in impressive performances in league cricket and Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20.

"Mithun sir guides me in everything. I have also spoken to S. Aravind sir.

"In 2021, I had a stress fracture and was out for eight months. Mithun sir helped me regain my swing, positioning of the wrist and the finish.

"All through, I never stopped working. I knew my chance would come. Now, I am trying to do my best."

Bengaluru Open upgraded to an ATP 125 event

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Open, which has been upgraded to ATP 125 from previous edition's ATP 100, will be held from February 24 to March 2 at the KSLTA Tennis Stadium here.

The eighth edition of KSLTA's flagship event, an important stop on the ATP Challenger Tour, has an increased prize money of $2,00,000.

In the past, Indians have capitalised on the home advantage. Sumit Nagal won the singles crown in 2017 and Prajnesh Gunneswaran emerged triumphant the following year. Ramkumar Ramanathan annexed the doubles crown three times, twice with fellow Indian Saketh Myneni and once with Purav Raja.

"The Bengaluru Open has been a great platform for promising Indian players looking to graduate to the next level," said Priyank Kharge, Minister of IT & BT & RDPR, Govt. of Karnataka, and senior vice-president of the KSLTA.

Sahaja takes out Timofeeva, enters the last eight

TENNIS

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

India's Sahaja Yamalapalli overcame an inconsistent Maria Timofeeva 6-1, 3-6, 6-1 in the second round of the $1,00,000 KPB Trust Women's Open tennis tournament at the KSLTA courts on Thursday.

Sahaja breezed through the first set, as fourth-seed Timofeeva (World No. 134) struggled with unforced errors. The Russian, whose confidence rises tremendously when her serve settles into good rhythm, found her bearing in the second set.

Timofeeva's serve failed her in the decider, leading her game to crumble once again. Sahaja (World No. 315), equipped with a powerful flat serve and crisp backhand, duly completed her second straight win over a higher ranked opponent. Sahaja will take on gritty southpaw Sara Bejlek in the quarterfinals on Friday.

"I came back a completely different person in the third set. I let go of all the negativity of the second set. I came out super fresh just like in the first set and played my best tennis to close out the match," said Sahaja.

Calling the shots: Sahaja made Timofeeva pay for her inconsistent play. K. MURALI KUMAR

Fellow Indian Ankita Raina lost to top seed Tatjana Maria 1-6, 3-6. Tatjana, 37, slowed the pace down with slices, and lulled Ankita into a rally battle. The German, who can keep the ball in play all day, emerged a comfortable winner.

The 2022 Chennai Open winner Linda Fruhvirtova took out defending champion Darja Semenistaja 3-6, 6-2, 6-3.

The results: Second round: Sahaja Yamalapalli bt Maria Timofeeva (Rus) 6-1, 3-6, 6-1; Tatjana Maria (Ger) bt Ankita Raina 6-1, 6-3; Sara Bejlek (Cze) bt Kathinka von Deichmann (Lie) 6-4, 4-6, 6-3; Lanlana Tararudee (Tha) bt Iryna Shymanovich (Blr) 6-0 (retd.); Dalila Jakupovic bt Alexandra Eala (Phi) 6-4, 6-4.

Rebecca Marino (Can) bt Maria Kozyreva (Rus) 6-2, 7-5; Linda Fruhvirtova (Cze) bt Darja Semenistaja (Lat) 6-3, 6-2, 6-3.

Leolia Jeanjean (Fra) bt Panna Udvardy (Hun) 6-4, 6-4.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Bengaluru United names Mohanraj as coach

Bengaluru-based I-League second division club, FC Bengaluru United (FCBU), appointed former India international Nallappan Mohanraj as its new head coach for the upcoming I-League 2. Mohanraj holds an AFC 'A' Diploma Coaching Certificate, and his coaching career highlights include stints with India's Under-19, Under-20, and Under-23 teams.

Nallappan Mohanraj.

As a player, Mohanraj represented the Indian national team from 2008 to 2013.
At the club level, he played for clubs like Mohun Bagan, ATK Kolkata, and Chennaiyin FC.

Shankar nets a hat-trick

Abhishek Shankar recorded a hat-trick to power Kickstart FC past Sporting Club Bengaluru 5-2 in the BDFA Super Division football league here on Thursday.
The result: Kickstart FC 5 (Abhishek Shankar 37, 39, 60, C. Cleetus 62, 87) bt Sporting Club Bengaluru 2 (V. Vignesh 80, Anto Rashith 83).

Gautam powers Yankees CC into final

C.M. Gautam (71 n.o.) took Yankees CC past Citizen Cultural CA in the semifinal of the KSCA Group I, Division IV tournament here. Gautam had scored an unbeaten 84 in the quarterfinal.

The scores:

Semifinals: Citizen Cultural CA 228 in 39.1 overs (Varun Kumar 107, Ravi 29, Chetan Kumar 32 n.o., H.R. Omkar 3/17, Nishant Singh Shekawat 3/37, Aamir Hamza 3/59) lost to Yankees CC 232/7 in 38.1 overs (Prajwal Gowda 28, C.M. Gautam 71 n.o., Nishant Singh Shekawat 66).

Bharath CC 255 in 49.3 overs (Sachin Gankal 46, C.S. Yathiraj 38, S. Monish 29, Rajat Hegde 57, M.R. Raghu 26, Vinuth Kumar 3/43) bt Young Pioneer CC 141 in 41.2 overs (Vishal Bhat 28, Ajay Patel 43, Sachin Gankal 4/30, M.R. Raghu 4/17).

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Asset Recovery Management Branch,
1st Floor, FKCCI Building, Kempegowda Road, Bengaluru-560009.
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CIN: L85110KA1924PLC001128

MEGA E-AUCTION
NOTICE OF SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES ON 15.02.2025

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) / Rule 9 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Constructive/ Physical Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer (details mentioned below), will be sold on **"As is where is"and "As is what is" basis on 15.02.2025** at the below mentioned timings for recovery of dues with further interest and cost thereon due to the **Karnataka Bank Ltd.**

The details are as under: Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposits details are as under & the Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before **14.02.2025 at 4.00 pm** through online payment to the Account No. details of which are given below or by way of DD favouring **Karnataka Bank Ltd.**

Sl. No.	Name of the Borrowers/Mortgagors/Guarantors/ Co-Obligants and Loan Account No.	Balance O/S Rs. Future Interest From + Costs	Possession Date Possession Type	Description of the Property/ies	Reserve Price (Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs.	Auction Time	Incremental Value of the Bid	Branch Name & Account Details for Remitting EMD/ IFSC Code
1	**(1) M/s Greenthrust Oil Industries Pvt Ltd, Represented by its Directors: i) Mrs Ashwini Rakshak Prabhu ii) Mr.Prakash Prabhu iii) Mrs. Jyothi Gopal Prabhu, Addressed at:** No.776, Tirumala Pride Apartment, Flat No. F2, 11th Main Road, Vinayaka Layout, Nagarbhavi 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560072, **(2) Mrs. Ashwini Rakshak Prabhu,** W/o Mr.Rakshak Prabhu, **Residing at:** Flat No. F2, Tirumala Pride Apartment, 11th Main Road, Vinayaka Layout, Nagarbhavi 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560072, **(3) Mr. Prakash Prabhu,** S/o Mr.Yashwanth Prabhu, # 184, Asha deep, 2nd Main, 4th Cross, Teachers Colony, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru-560072, **(4) Mrs.Jyothi Gopal Prabhu** W/o Mr.Gopal Prabhu, **Residing at:** No.208, 2nd Main Road, Teachers Layout, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru-560072, **(5) Mr.Anandaraya Yashvantha Prabhu** S/o Mr. Yashvantha Prabhu, **Residing at:** Flat No. F2, Tirumala Pride Apartment, 11th Main Road, Vinayaka Layout, Nagarbhavi 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560072. **Loan A/c Nos.:** **(1) PSTL A/c No.1247001800032701** **(2) PSTL A/c No.1247001800038001** **(3) PSTL A/c No.1247001800040801**	**Total Rs. 8,35,08,238.12** **[(1) Rs. 7,11,62,439.20 11.01.2025 + (2) Rs. 53,38,087.68 11.01.2025 + (3) Rs. 70,07,711.24 11.01.2025]**	**13.06.2024** **Constructive**	**Item No.1:** All that part and parcel of **Residential property bearing Now Municipal Site No.184, PID No.39-187-184,** formed in **Sy. No.1/2, 1/3, 1/4, 1/5, 1/6, 1/7, 2, 10, 50/1, 53, 54/1, 54/4A, 54/4B, 55/5** formed by the Kendra Upadhyayara Sangha (Regd. Bangalore South), layout plan approved by BDA, measuring East to West: 9.14 meters and North to South: (13.40 + 13.10)2 meters, in all **totally measuring 121.20 sq.meters i.e.1305 sq.ft.,** together with building constructed (GF, FF, SF with terrace floor measuring 2520 sq.ft) thereon situated at Nagarabhavi 1st Stage, presently BBMP Ward No.39, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore-560072 belonging to Mr.Prakash Prabhu. **Boundaries of property as per Document: East by:** Site No.185, **West by:** Site No.183, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Site No.175. **Property Location: Latitude & Longitude:12.957405, 77.517919**	**Rs. 3,00,00,000/-**	**Rs. 30,00,000/-**	**10.30 AM to 10.50 AM**	**Rs. 1,00,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Branch: Bengaluru – Amarjyothi Nagar A/c No: 1243500200004101 IFSC: KARB0000124**
				Item No.2: All that part and parcel of **Residential property bearing Site No.2, Khatha No.646, measuring 2400 sq ft** (East to West: 60 ft and North to South: 40 ft), situated at Saptagiri Layout, 2nd Phase, Hosakerehalli, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru, belonging to **Mrs.Ashwini Rakshak Prabhu. Boundaries of property as per Document: East by:** 40 ft Road, **West by:** Private Property, **North by:** Site No.1, **South by:** Site No.3. **Property Location: Latitude & Longitude:12.920305, 77.535987**	**Rs. 1,70,00,000/-**	**Rs. 17,00,000/-**	**10.55 AM to 11.15 AM**		
				Item No.3: All that part and parcel of **Leasehold Industrial property bearing Plot No.75, being carved out of Sy.No.92 and 143** of Yalladadlu Village and Sy.No.65 & 66 of Nagenahalli Village, measuring 4004 sq mts (East to West: 88 meters and North to South: 45.50 meters) together with sheet roofed industrial shed building constructed thereon situated at 2nd Phase, Vasanthapura Industrial Area, Kora Hobli, Tumakuru Taluk and District-574128 belonging to **M/s Greenthrust Oil Industries Pvt.Limited. Boundaries of property as per Document: East by:** Plot No.76, **West by:** Private Land & KIADB Land, **North by:** Plot No.77, **South by:** 18 mtrs wide Road No.5. **Property Location: Latitude & Longitude:13.500417, 77.035715**	**Rs. 2,55,00,000/-**	**Rs. 25,50,000/-**	**11.20 AM to 11.40 AM**		
2	**(1) Mrs. Aruna N.V,** W/o Late. Venkatesh G, **(2) Mr. Shashank N.V,** S/o Late. Venkatesh G, **(3) Miss. Sanchitha N.V,** D/o Late. Venkatesh G (Since Minor Represented by Natural Guardian Mrs. Aruna N.V), **All are addressed at :** No.354, 3rd C Main, OMBR Layout, Bengaluru-560063, **[Mrs. Aruna N.V, Mr. Shashank N.V and Miss. Sanchitha N.V (since minor represented by natural guardian Mrs. Aruna N.V) being the legal heirs of Late. Venkatesh G who was the proprietor of M/s Jayalakshmi Good House Keeping are the proper and necessary parties to this notice].** **CC To : M/s Jayalakshmi Good House Keeping ,** Addressed at : 34/1, 19 th Cross, CMH Road, Lakshmipuram, Bengaluru – 560008. **Loan A/c Nos.:** **(1) M/s Jayalakshmi Good House Keeping** **PSOD A/c No.0597000600083901** **(2) Mr. Venkatesh G (Since deceased)** **Term Loan A/c No.0597001603045201**	**Total Rs. 23,26,687.44** **[(1) Rs. 19,09,124.22 01.01.2025 (2) Rs. 4,17,563.22 17.01.2025]**	**09.08.2023 & Constructive**	All that part and parcel of **immovable property bearing New Corporation No.3CM-354, PID No.88-255-3CM-354, measuring 600 Sq.ft** [East to West-30 feet, North to South-20 feet], with **Residential Building** constructed thereon, situated at 3rd C Main, 4th Cross, Near Shiva Parvathi Kalyana Mantap, OMBR Layout, Banaswadi, Bengaluru, belonging to Late. **Venkatesh G (since deceased represented by legal heirs). Boundaries of property as per Document : East :** Property No.3DM - 353, **West :** 3rd C Main Road, **North :** Property No.3CM - 356, **South :** Property No.3CM - 352. **Property Location:** **Latitude & Longitude:13.008214, 77.651654**	**Rs. 80,00,000/-**	**Rs. 8,00,000/-**	**10.55 A.M to 11.15 A.M**	**Rs. 50,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Branch- Bengaluru – Murphy Town A/c No: 0593500200004101, IFSC:KARB0000059**
3	**(1) Mr. Puvi Kumar,** S/o Mr. Suka Kumar, **Addressed at :** #25, 1st Cross, Sindhi Colony, JC Road, Behind VISL Building, Bengaluru-560002, **(2) Mrs. Jagadeeshan Guhapriya,** W/o Mr. B. Kanagaachalam, **Addressed at :** Flat No.108, IHFD Apartment, No.11, Vasavi Temple Road, V.V Puram, Bengaluru-560004, **(3) Mrs. Shanmuganathan Ramya,** W/o Mr. Puvi Kumar, **Addressed at :** #25, 1st Cross, Sindhi Colony, J C Road, Behind VISL Building, Bengaluru-560002, **(4) Mr. B. Kanagaachalam,** S/o Mr.U.P Balasubramanian, **Addressed at:** Flat No.108, IHFD Apartment, No.11, Vasavi Temple Road, V.V Puram, Bengaluru-560004. **Loan A/c Nos.:** **(1) PSOD A/c No.0627000600109301** **(2) PSTL A/c No.0627001800040501** **(3) PSTL A/c No.0627001800042101**	**Total Rs. 38,98,21,027.92** **[(1) Rs. 31,99,53,437.92 + (2) Rs. 3,93,13,097.00 + (3) Rs. 3,05,54,493.00 01.02.2024]**	**Constructive 09.05.2024 & Physical 03.01.2025 (SL.NO. 4 & 5)**	**Item No.1:** All that part and parcel of the House Property bearing **Old No.22, New Corporation No.26, PID No.48-77-26,** measuring **1697.25 Sq.ft** as per document [East to West – 64 ft 3 inches + 59 ft 9 inches /2 and North to South – 27 ft 6 inches + 27 ft 3 inches /2], with building constructed thereon, situated at J.C Road, 2nd Cross, Ward No.48, Sudhamanagar, Bengaluru, belonging to **Mr. Puvi Kumar S. Boundaries of property as per Document : East :** Common Approach Road, **West :** P.W.D Land sold by Govt to M.I & S Works Bhadravathi, **North :** Plot No.23, **South :** Plot No.21. **Property Location: Latitude & Longitude: 12.959506'N, 77.583632'E**	**Rs. 5,00,00,000/-**	**Rs. 50,00,000/-**	**10.40.A.M to 11.00 A M**	**Rs. 1,00,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Branch- Bengaluru – Minerva Circle A/c No: 0623500200004101, IFSC:KARB0000062**
				Item No.2: All that part and parcel of property bearing **Site No.1, Form No.10, No.393, measuring 9600 Sq.ft** as per document [East to West-80 feet and North to South-120 feet] , with building constructed thereon, situated at Champakadham Nagar, Bannerghatta Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru , belonging to **Mr. Puvi Kumar S. Boundaries of property as per Document : East :** 50 feet Road, **West :** 30 feet Road, **North :** Site No.2 & 3, **South :** Govt. Road. **Property Location: Latitude & Longitude: 12.81496'N, 77.578256'E**	**Rs. 2,90,00,000/-**	**Rs. 29,00,000/-**	**11.05 A.M to 11.25 A M**		
				Item No.3: All that part and parcel of property bearing Site No.197 (marked as Site No.197/A), **Khata No.1966, BBMP Khata No.256/2597/1966/197A, measuring 2775 Sq.ft** as per document [East to West on Northern Side-40 feet, East to West on Southern Side-42 feet, North to South on Eastern Side-63 feet, North to South on western Side-75.9 feet] formed in the layout known as "Classic Orchards ", carved out of the converted land bearing Survey No's 173, 174/1B, 81/2C, 82/1, 80/2B, 81/2B with building constructed thereon, situated at Kothanur Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru , belonging to **Ms. Jagadeesan Guhapriya. Boundaries of property as per Document : East :** Property bearing Site No.198, **West :** Remaining Portion of the Same Site (Marked as Site No.197), **North :** Property bearing Site No.201, **South :** Road. **Property Location: Latitude & Longitude: 12.873951'N, 77.590563'E**	**Rs. 5,31,00,000/-**	**Rs. 53,10,000/-**	**11.30 A.M to 11.50 A M**		
				Item No.4: All that part and parcel of **Residential Flat bearing No.108,** in the first floor of the multistoried building known as **"IHFD Apartments",** having super built up area of **1392 Sq.ft** along with 2.6348% (i.e 568.85 Sq.ft) of undivided share, right , title and interest in the land measuring **21,590 Sq.ft** and one covered car parking lot (#108), constructed on property bearing No.11 (Old No.111), situated at Vasavi Temple Road, V.V Puram, Bengaluru, belonging to **Mr. B. Kanagaachalam and Mr. Puvi Kumar S. Boundaries of Land as per Document : East :** Private Road, **West :** Vasavi Temple Street, **North :** M. Krishna Rao Scindia Road, **South :** Site bearing No.112 (Old), **Boundaries of Flat : East :** Open to Sky, **West :** Corridor & Flat No.106, **North :** Flat No.107, **South :** Open to Sky. **Property Location: Latitude & Longitude: 12.950356'N, 77.576801'E.**	**Rs. 1,57,00,000/-**	**Rs. 15,70,000/-**	**11.55 A.M to 12.15 P M**		
				Item No.5: All that part and parcel of **Residential Flat bearing No.107,** in the first floor of the multistoried building known as **"IHFD Apartments",** having super built up area of 1392 Sq.ft along with 2.6348% (i.e 568.85 Sq.ft) of undivided share, right , title and interest in the land measuring 21,590 Sq.ft, constructed on property bearing No.11 (Old No.111) , Municipal No.11/14, PID No.50-5-11/14, situated at Vasavi Temple Road, V.V Puram, Bengaluru, belonging to **Mr. B. Kanagaachalam. Boundaries of Land as per Document : East :** Private Road, **West :** Vasavi Temple Street, **North :** M. Krishna Rao Scindia Road, **South :** Site bearing No.112 (Old). **Boundaries of Flat : East :** Open to Sky, **West :** Corridor & Flat No.105, **North :** Open to Sky, **South :** Flat No.108. **Property Location: Latitude & Longitude: 12.950356'N, 77.576801'E**	**Rs. 1,55,00,000/-**	**Rs. 15,50,000/-**	**12.20 P M to 12.40 P M**		
4	**(1) M/s Pushpam Buildcon, Represented by its Proprietrix: Mrs.Radha R.S. (2) Mrs.Radha R.S,** W/o Mr.Manjunatha Reddy D.S. **(3) Mrs.Veena R.S,** W/o Dr.Manjunath Reddy N,**(4) Mr.Ramachandra Reddy T.N,** S/o Late Narayan Reddy, **(5) Mr.Abhiram M,** S/o Mr.Manjunatha Reddy D.S. **All are addressed at:** No.191, 1st Block East, 1st Cross, Byrasandra, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560011. **Loan A/c Nos.:** **(1) PSTL A/c No.1077001800037901** **(2) PSTL A/c No.1077001800038401** **(3) PSTL A/c No.1077001800038501** **(4) TL A/c No.1077001600070701**	**Total Rs. 6,74,72,976.63** **[(1) Rs. 39,73,150.79 22.08.2024 + (2) Rs. 4,54,59,969.08 22.08.2024 + (3) Rs. 1,32,26,599.26 22.08.2024 + (4) Rs. 48,13,257.50 22.08.2024]**	**01.10.2024 & Constructive**	All that part and parcel of Residential Property measuring **2400 Sq ft** bearing **New No.14, Old No.191,** with building constructed thereon situated at 1st Cross Road, 1st Block, Jayanagar, Byrasandra, Bengaluru-560011, belonging to **Mr.Ramachandra Reddy T.N.** Boundaries of Property : **East :** Site No.192, **West :** Site No.190, **North:** Private Property, **South:** Road. **Property Location: Latitude & Longitude: 12.935374, 77.592068**	**Rs. 6,75,00,000/-**	**Rs. 67,50,000/-**	**10.30 A.M to 10.50 A.M**	**Rs. 1,00,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Branch - Bengaluru Banashankari- II Stage A/c No: - 1073500200004101 IFSC: KARB0000107**
5	**(1) M/s. Sai Aditya Enterprises, Represented by its Proprietor: Mr. Shankar Babu B.P,** No.346, 2nd Floor, 1st Main, 9th Cross, Mallathahalli Road, Vishweshwaraiah Layout, Bengaluru-560056 **(2) Mr. Shankar Babu B P,** S/o Mr. Prakash, **(3) Mrs. Nirmala C,** W/o Mr. Shankar Babu B P, **No.2 & 3 are addressed at :** No.346, 2nd Floor, 1st Main, 9th Cross, Mallathahalli Road, Vishweshwaraiah Layout, Bengaluru-560056 **Also at:** Site No.16, BBMP Khata No.1037/240/4/16, Halagevaderahalli Village, BBMP Ward No.160, Rajarajeshwarinagar Sub Division, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru - 560098. **II) (1) Mrs.Nirmala C**, W/o Mr.Shankar Babu, **(2) Mr.Shankar Babu,** S/o Mr.Prakash, **Both are addressed at:** No.346, 3rd Floor, Balaji Complex, Mallathalli, Lake Road, Mallathalli, Benagaluru Urban, Bengaluru-560056. **Also at:** No.16, Sy.No.240/4, Kengeri Hobli, R.R.Nagar Sub Division, Bengaaluru-560098.. **Loan A/c Nos.:** **I. M/s Sai Aditya Enterprises** **(A) PSOD A/c No.2297000600000701** **II. Mrs. Nirmala C** **(B) TL A/c No.2297001600001601**	**Total Rs. 1,09,02,684.78** **[I. M/s Sai Aditya Enterprises Rs.21,53,745.90 01.01.2025 II. Mrs. Nirmala Rs.87,48,938.88 06.01.2025**	**04.10.2024 & Constructive**	All that piece and parcel of residential property bearing **Site No.16, BBMP Khata No.1037/240/4/16,** situated at Halagevaderahalli Village, being the site Carved out of converted land in Sy.No.240/4, of Halagevaderahalli Village, BBMP Ward No.160, Rajarajeshwarinagar Sub Division, measuring 6000 sq ft, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk-560098 belonging to **Mrs.Nirmala. C. Boundaries of Property as per documents : East by :** Road, **West by :** Sy No.241 and 240/4, **North by:** Site No.15, **South by:** Sy No.240/3. **Property Location: Latitude & Longitude: 12.910259'N, 77.517104'E**	**Rs. 4,85,00,000/-**	**Rs. 48,50,000/-**	**10.30 A.M to 10.50 A.M**	**Rs. 1,00,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Branch -Bengaluru – Bommanahallli A/c No: - 2293500200004101 IFSC: KARB0000229**
6	**(1) M/s. Sri Sai Build Pro, Represented by its Proprietor: Mr. Ramadas B.R, Addressed at:-** No.85/3, Cargo Road, Near Karnataka Bank, Bettakote Village, Devanahalli Town, Bengaluru-562129, **Also at:-** No.108, "Shiva Nilaya", 5th Main, 1st Cross, C V Raman Nagar, S.G Palya, Bengaluru-560093, **(2) Mr. Ramadas B.R,** S/o Mr. Bangalore Ramamurthy, **(3) Mr. Gagan B.R,** S/o Mr. Ramadas B.R, **Both are R/at :** No.108, "Shiva Nilaya", 5th Main, 1st Cross, C V Raman Nagar, S.G Palya, Bengaluru-560093. **Loan A/c Nos.:** **(1) PSTL A/c No. 9457001800001101** **(2) PSOD No. 9457000600001501**	**Total Rs. 1,52,13,832.40** **[(1) Rs.1,14,69,160.20 14.01.2025 + (2) Rs. 37,44,672.20 01.01.2025]**	**20.06.2024 & Constructive**	All that piece and parcel of Residential property bearing **Site No.09,** admeasuring **1160 Sq.ft.** (East to West: 29 feet; North to South: 40 feet), and residential building namely "Shiva Nilaya" constructed thereon having Municipal No.226/9, PID No.83-103-226/9, BBMP Ward No.83, situated at Jogupalya, now known as Suddaguntepalya, Byrasandra Dakhale, K.R Puram Hobli, 5th Main, 1st Cross, CV Raman Nagar, Bengaluru -560093. **Boundaries of Property : East by :** Site No.10 belongs to Sarojamma, (Nanjaiah), **West by :** Site No.8 belongs to Kusuma, **North by :** Site No.6 belongs to Papanna, **South by :** Road. **Property location:** **Latitude & Longitude: 12.983292, 77.656048**	**Rs. 1,53,00,000/-**	**Rs. 15,30,000/-**	**11.15 AM to 11.35 AM**	**Rs. 1,00,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Branch - Bengaluru - Kaggadasapura A/c No: - 9453500200004101 IFSC: KARB0000945**
7	**(1) M/s. Tanisha Minerals Pvt. Limited, Represented by its Directors : i) Mr. Nagaraju Gubba, ii) Mrs. Venkataramani Gubba, Addressed at:** No.53, 3rd Floor, Empire Tower, Railway Parallel Road, K.P West, Bengaluru-560020. **(2) Mr. Nagaraju Gubba,** S/o Late. Krishnaiah Gubba, **R/at:** No.1014, Ramya Sadana, Flat No. 24/1, 11th Main, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560104. **(3) Mrs. Venkataramani Gubba,** W/o Mr. Nagaraju Gubba, **R/at:** No.1014, Ramya Sadana, Flat No. 24/1, 11th Main, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560104. **(4) Mr. Lakshminarayana Gubba,** S/o Late. Krishnaiah Gubba, **R/at:** No.222, Matha Nilaya, 5th Main Road, Near Sri Vidyanagar Bus Stop, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560085 **(5) Mrs. Asha G L,** W/o Mr. Lakshminarayana Gubba**, R/at:** No.222, Matha Nilaya, 5th Main Road, Near Sri Vidyanagar Bus Stop, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560085 **(6) Mr. Narayana Babu B.S,** S/o Mr. B. Subbarayan, **R/at:** No.14, Vanasuma, Lake City Layout, Behind Janapriya, Kodichikkanahalli, Bengaluru-560040 **(7) Mrs. Mala B.S, W/o Mr. Puttaraju B.S, R/at:-** No.13, 60 Feet Road, Amarjyothinagar, Prashanthanagar Main Road, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560040 **(8) Mr. Puttaraju B.S,** S/o Mr. Shivanna B.C **R/at:-** No.13, 60 Feet Road, Amarjyothinagar, Prashanthanagar Main Road, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560040 **Loan A/c Nos.:** **(1) PSTL A/c 0637001800049501** **(2) PSTL A/c 0637001800049701** **(3) OD A/c 0637000100444901**	**Total Rs. 5,84,82,519.83** **[(1) Rs. 4,37,17,469.86 21.10.2024 + (2) Rs. 1,15,58,374.14 21.10.2024 + (3) Rs. 32,06,675.83 19.10.2024]**	**23.07.2024 Constructive**	**Item No.1:-** All that piece and parcel of **Residential Flat** bearing **No. GF-001,** Ground Floor on the Western side in the Apartment known as **"Ramya Sadana"** with the **Super Built Up Area of 1834.25 sq.ft. & 675 sq.ft.** of undivided share over the land along with one car parking slot in the basement measuring **200 sq.ft.** comprised in **BDA site No. 1014, Municipal No. 24/1, Corporation No. 1014/24, PID No. 34-112-24/1,** situated at 11th Main Road, Ward No. 34, BBMP, Railway Pipeline Road, RPC Layout, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru -560040 belonging to **Mr. Nagaraju Gubba. Boundaries of Flat: East by :** Corridor, Entrance & then Flat No.02, **West by :** Open to Sky, **North by :** Open to Sky, **South by :** Open to Sky. **Property location:Latitude & Longitude: 12.958487, 77.534554**	**Rs. 1,65,00,000/-**	**Rs. 16,50,000/-**	**12.05 PM to 12.25PM**	**Rs. 1,00,000/-**	**Karnataka Bank Ltd Branch: Bengaluru – Nehrunagar A/c No. 0633500200004101 IFSC: KARB0000063**
				Item No.2:- All that part and parcel of property bearing **Site No.40,** admeasuring **1780 sq.ft.,** (measuring East to West : 40 feet and North to South: 44.50 feet), Layout formed by Binny Mills Workers & other Labours Co-operative Housing Society Ltd. in **Sy. No.10** of K.H Ranganath Colony, 2nd Stage, along with building constructed thereon having PID No. 41-28-40, BBMP Division No.21, present BBMP No.40, Ward No. 41, situated at Deevatige Ramanahalli Layout, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru-560026 belonging to **Mr. Lakshminarayana Gubba & Mrs. Asha G L. Boundaries of Property:East by :** Road, **West by:** Site No.39, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Road. **Property location: Latitude & Longitude: 12.94678, 77.536889**	**Rs. 1,71,00,000/-**	**Rs. 17,10,000/-**	**12.30 PM to 12.50 PM**		
				Item No.3:- All that part and parcel of converted residential land bearing Khata No.326/428, Sy.No.15/2B, measuring 2 Acres 21 Guntas situated at Kibbanahally Village, Kibbanahally Hobli, Tiptur Taluk, Tumakuru District-572114 belonging to **Mr. Puttaraju B.S. Boundaries of Property: East by :** Milk Booth, **West by:** Remaining property, **North by:** Kharabu Halla, **South by:** Road. **Property location:Latitude & Longitude: 13.311706, 76.657295**	**Rs. 3,85,00,000/-**	**Rs. 38,50,000/-**	**12.55 PM to 13.15 PM**		

(The borrower's/mortgagor's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset).
(This Notice shall also serve as Notice under Sub Rule (6) of Rule 8/Sub Rule (1) of Rule 9 of Security Interest Enforcement Rules-2002 to the Borrower/Guarantors).
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